



- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
H04W 36/32 (2009.01) *H04W 36/08* (2009.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/KR2012/002528
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
4 April 2012 (04.04.2012)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
61/471,670 4 April 2011 (04.04.2011) US
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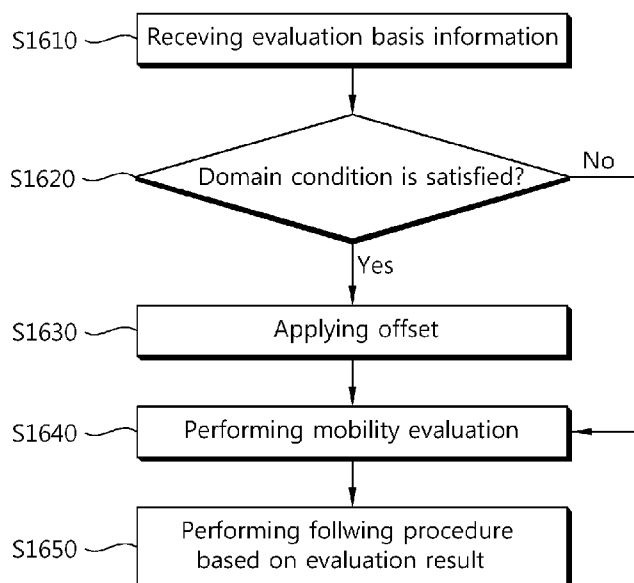
- (81) **Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available):** AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

- (84) **Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available):** ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU,

[Continued on next page]

- (54) **Title:** METHOD FOR COMMUNICATION BASED ON MOBILITY EVALUATION IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR THE SAME

[Fig. 16]



- (57) **Abstract:** A method for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system is provided. The method includes : receiving evaluation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising an offset value for mobility evaluation and a domain condition; determining whether the domain condition is satisfied; performing the mobility evaluation for at least one neighbor cell based on the offset value, if the domain condition is satisfied; and selecting a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a predetermined criterion.



LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, **Published:**

SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ,

GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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Description

Title of Invention: METHOD FOR COMMUNICATION BASED ON MOBILITY EVALUATION IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR THE SAME

Technical Field

[0001] The present invention relates to a wireless communication system, and more particularly, to a method and apparatus for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system.

Background Art

[0002] 3rd generation partnership project (3GPP) long term evolution (LTE) is an improved version of a universal mobile telecommunication system (UMTS) and is introduced as the 3GPP release 8. The 3GPP LTE uses orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA) in a downlink, and uses single carrier-frequency division multiple access (SC-FDMA) in an uplink. The 3GPP LTE employs multiple input multiple output (MIMO) having up to four antennas. In recent years, there is an ongoing discussion on 3GPP LTE-advanced (LTE-A) that is an evolution of the 3GPP LTE.

[0003] A micro cell, a femto cell, and a pico cell, etc., having a small service area can be installed in a specific location of a macro cell having a wide coverage. Such a network environment is called a heterogeneous network.

[0004] In a heterogeneous network environment, if the number of user equipments (UEs) is increased, traffic of the macro cell is overloaded, and thus service quality or service durability of the UE may deteriorate. To address this problem, some of the UEs which receive a service from the macro cell can be allowed to receive a service from another cell having a small coverage within a macro cell coverage. This is called offloading.

[0005] In order to offload traffic of the macro cell to another cell, when the UE is located in a coverage of a cell having a small coverage, the UE must be able to preferentially consider the cell as a mobility target cell. For this, the UE applies an offset for the cell when performing mobility evaluation.

[0006] For offloading, when it is implemented to apply an offset for a frequency of a cell having a small coverage irrespective of a location of the UE or a service environment of the UE, the offset can be applied to another macro cell having the same frequency, and thus the macro cell can be selected as a mobility target. This may cause a result opposite to the original purpose of offloading which distributes traffic from the macro cell to the cell having the small coverage.

[0007] In addition, the UE may be unable to receive a normal service from a serving cell to measure a cell which is not located in a coverage of another cell or which is not

suitable for moving. This causes a problem in that service quality of the UE deteriorates since an unnecessary measurement procedure is performed.

[0008] Accordingly, there is a need for a method capable of selectively performing mobility evaluation by the UE on the basis of an offset by providing a domain condition for applying the offset when the UE performs mobility evaluation.

Summary of Invention

Technical Problem

[0009] The present invention provides a method and an apparatus for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system.

Solution to Problem

[0010] In an aspect, a method for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system is provided. The method includes : receiving evaluation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising an offset value for mobility evaluation and a domain condition; determining whether the domain condition is satisfied; performing the mobility evaluation for at least one neighbor cell based on the offset value, if the domain condition is satisfied; and selecting a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a predetermined criterion.

[0011] The domain condition may indicate a geographical area.

[0012] The method may further include receiving positioning information which indicates a location of the UE.

[0013] The step of the determining whether the domain condition is satisfied may include determining that the domain condition is satisfied if the location of the UE is located in the geographical area.

[0014] The domain condition may indicate a threshold for a serving cell.

[0015] The step of the determining whether the domain condition is satisfied may include determining that the domain condition is satisfied if a measurement result for the serving cell is less than the threshold.

[0016] The domain condition may indicate a threshold for a neighbor cell.

[0017] The step of the determining whether the domain condition is satisfied may include determining that the domain condition is satisfied if a measurement result for the neighbor cell is greater than the threshold.

[0018] The evaluation basis information may further include a limit cell list.

[0019] The at least one neighbor cell may be included in the limit cell list.

[0020] The evaluation basis information may further include a limit frequency list.

[0021] At least one frequency in which the at least one neighbor cell operates may be included in the limit frequency list.

- [0022] The method may further include performing a cell reselection with the cell, if the UE operates in an RRC_IDLE mode.
- [0023] The method may further include transmitting a measurement report of the cell to a serving cell, if the UE operates in an RRC_CONNECTED mode.
- [0024] In another aspect, a wireless device is provided. The apparatus includes a radio frequency (RF) unit transmitting and receiving a radio signal; and a processor operably coupled to the RF unit. The processor is configured to: receive estimation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising an offset value for mobility evaluation and a domain condition; determine whether the domain condition is satisfied; perform the mobility evaluation for at least one neighbor cell based on the offset value, if the domain condition is satisfied; and select a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a predetermined criterion.
- [0025] In still another aspect, a method for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system is provided. The method includes: receiving evaluation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising a domain condition; determining whether a domain condition is satisfied; measuring at least one neighbor cell, when the domain condition is satisfied; performing the mobility evaluation for the neighbor cell based on the offset value; and selecting a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a predetermined criterion.

Advantageous Effects of Invention

- [0026] A user equipment can selectively perform mobility evaluation based on offset information of evaluation basis information received from a network. Therefore, by applying an offset in an unnecessary situation, a problem in which a mobility target cell is wrongly selected can be avoided.
- [0027] In addition, cell measurement can be performed when necessary on the basis of the received evaluation basis information, and thus mobility evaluation can be performed. Therefore, the user equipment can be prevented from unnecessary measurement, and a service can be persistently provided. Accordingly, overall network service quality is increased, and unnecessary battery consumption of the user equipment can be prevented.

Brief Description of Drawings

- [0028] FIG. 1 illustrates a wireless communication system to which the present invention is applied.
- [0029] FIG. 2 is a diagram illustrating a radio protocol architecture for a user plane.
- [0030] FIG. 3 is a diagram illustrating a radio protocol architecture for a control plane.

- [0031] FIG. 4 is a flowchart showing an RRC connection establishment procedure.
- [0032] FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing an RRC connection reconfiguration procedure.
- [0033] FIG. 6 shows an example of a radio link failure. An operation related to the radio link failure can be described in two phases.
- [0034] FIG. 7 is a flowchart showing a success of a connection re-establishment procedure.
- [0035] FIG. 8 is a flowchart showing a failure of a connection re-establishment procedure.
- [0036] FIG. 9 is a flowchart showing a conventional method of performing measurement.
- [0037] FIG. 10 shows an example of a measurement configuration assigned to a UE.
- [0038] FIG. 11 shows an example of deleting a measurement identity.
- [0039] FIG. 12 shows an example of deleting a measurement object.
- [0040] FIG. 13 shows a conventional measurement procedure.
- [0041] FIG. 14 shows an example of a wireless communication system for operating an HeNB.
- [0042] FIG. 15 is a flowchart showing a handover procedure for CSG cell.
- [0043] FIG. 16 shows a communication method based on mobility evaluation of a UE according to an embodiment of the present invention.
- [0044] FIG. 17 shows another example of a communication method based on mobility evaluation of a UE according to an embodiment of the present invention.
- [0045] FIG. 18 shows another example of a mobility evaluation method according to an embodiment of the present invention.
- [0046] FIG. 19 is a block diagram of a wireless apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Mode for the Invention

- [0047] FIG. 1 illustrates a wireless communication system to which the present invention is applied. The wireless communication system may also be referred to as an evolved-UMTS terrestrial radio access network (E-UTRAN) or a long term evolution (LTE)/LTE-A system.
- [0048] The E-UTRAN includes at least one base station (BS) 20 which provides a control plane and a user plane to a user equipment (UE) 10. The UE 10 may be fixed or mobile, and may be referred to as another terminology, such as a mobile station (MS), a user terminal (UT), a subscriber station (SS), a mobile terminal (MT), a wireless device, etc. The BS 20 is generally a fixed station that communicates with the UE 10 and may be referred to as another terminology, such as an evolved node-B (eNB), a base transceiver system (BTS), an access point, etc.
- [0049] The BSs 20 are interconnected by means of an X2 interface. The BSs 20 are also connected by means of an S1 interface to an evolved packet core (EPC) 30, more specifically, to a mobility management entity (MME) through S1-MME and to a

serving gateway (S-GW) through S1-U.

- [0050] The EPC 30 includes an MME, an S-GW, and a packet data network-gateway (P-GW). The MME has access information of the UE or capability information of the UE, and such information is generally used for mobility management of the UE. The S-GW is a gateway having an E-UTRAN as an end point. The P-GW is a gateway having a PDN as an end point.
- [0051] Layers of a radio interface protocol between the UE and the network can be classified into a first layer (L1), a second layer (L2), and a third layer (L3) based on the lower three layers of the open system interconnection (OSI) model that is well-known in the communication system. Among them, a physical (PHY) layer belonging to the first layer provides an information transfer service by using a physical channel, and a radio resource control (RRC) layer belonging to the third layer serves to control a radio resource between the UE and the network. For this, the RRC layer exchanges an RRC message between the UE and the BS.
- [0052] FIG. 2 is a diagram illustrating a radio protocol architecture for a user plane. FIG. 3 is a diagram illustrating a radio protocol architecture for a control plane. The user plane is a protocol stack for user data transmission. The control plane is a protocol stack for control signal transmission.
- [0053] Referring to FIG. 2 and 3, a PHY layer provides an upper layer with an information transfer service through a physical channel. The PHY layer is connected to a medium access control (MAC) layer which is an upper layer of the PHY layer through a transport channel. Data is transferred between the MAC layer and the PHY layer through the transport channel. The transport channel is classified according to how and with what characteristics data is transmitted through a radio interface.
- [0054] Between different PHY layers, i.e., a PHY layer of a transmitter and a PHY layer of a receiver, data are transferred through the physical channel. The physical channel is modulated using an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) scheme, and utilizes time and frequency as a radio resource.
- [0055] A function of the MAC layer includes mapping between a logical channel and a transport channel and multiplexing/de-multiplexing on a transport block provided to a physical channel over a transport channel of a MAC service data unit (SDU) belonging to the logical channel. The MAC layer provides a service to a radio link control (RLC) layer through the logical channel.
- [0056] A function of the RLC layer includes RLC SDU concatenation, segmentation, and re-assembly. To ensure a variety of quality of service (QoS) required by a radio bearer (RB), the RLC layer provides three operation modes, i.e., a transparent mode (TM), an unacknowledged mode (UM), and an acknowledged mode (AM). The AM RLC provides error correction by using an automatic repeat request (ARQ).

- [0057] Functions of a packet data convergence protocol (PDCP) layer in the user plane include user data delivery, header compression, and ciphering. Functions of a PDCP layer in the control plane include control-plane data delivery and ciphering/integrity protection.
- [0058] A radio resource control (RRC) layer is defined only in the control plane. The RRC layer serves to control the logical channel, the transport channel, and the physical channel in association with configuration, reconfiguration and release of radio bearers (RBs). An RB is a logical path provided by the first layer (i.e., PHY layer) and the second layer (i.e., MAC layer, RLC layer, and PDCP layer) for data delivery between the UE and the network.
- [0059] The configuration of the RB implies a process for specifying a radio protocol layer and channel properties to provide a specific service and for determining respective detailed parameters and operations. The RB can be classified into two types, i.e., a signaling RB (SRB) and a data RB (DRB). The SRB is used as a path for transmitting an RRC message in the control plane. The DRB is used as a path for transmitting user data in the user plane.
- [0060] When an RRC connection exists between an RRC layer of the UE and an RRC layer of the network, the UE is in an RRC connected state, and otherwise the UE is in an RRC idle state.
- [0061] Data are transmitted from the network to the UE through a downlink transport channel. Examples of the downlink transport channel include a broadcast channel (BCH) for transmitting system information and a downlink-shared channel (SCH) for transmitting user traffic or control messages. The user traffic of downlink multicast or broadcast services or the control messages can be transmitted on the downlink-SCH or an additional downlink multicast channel (MCH). Data are transmitted from the UE to the network through an uplink transport channel. Examples of the uplink transport channel include a random access channel (RACH) for transmitting an initial control message and an uplink SCH for transmitting user traffic or control messages.
- [0062] Examples of logical channels belonging to a higher channel of the transport channel and mapped onto the transport channels include a broadcast channel (BCCH), a paging control channel (PCCH), a common control channel (CCCH), a multicast control channel (MCCH), a multicast traffic channel (MTCH), etc.
- [0063] The physical channel includes several symbols in a time domain and several sub-carriers in a frequency domain. One sub-frame includes a plurality of symbols in the time domain. One subframe includes a plurality of resource blocks. One resource block includes a plurality of symbols and a plurality of sub-carriers. Further, each subframe may use specific sub-carriers of specific symbols (e.g., a first symbol) of a corresponding subframe for a physical downlink control channel (PDCCH), i.e., an L1/L2

control channel. A transmission time interval (TTI) is a unit time of data transmission, and is 1 millisecond (ms) which corresponds to one subframe.

[0064] Hereinafter, an RRC state of a UE and an RRC connection will be disclosed.

[0065] The RRC state indicates whether an RRC layer of the UE is logically connected to an RRC layer of an E-UTRAN. If the two layers are connected to each other, it is called an RRC connected state, and if the two layers are not connected to each other, it is called an RRC idle state. When in the RRC connected state, the UE has an RRC connection and thus the E-UTRAN can recognize a presence of the UE in a cell unit. Accordingly, the UE can be effectively controlled. On the other hand, when in the RRC idle state, the UE cannot be recognized by the E-UTRAN, and is managed by a core network in a tracking area unit which is a unit of a wider area than a cell. That is, regarding the UE in the RRC idle state, only a presence or absence of the UE is recognized in a wide area unit. To get a typical mobile communication service such as voice or data, a transition to the RRC connected state is necessary.

[0066] When a user initially powers on the UE, the UE first searches for a proper cell and thereafter stays in the RRC idle state in the cell. Only when there is a need to establish an RRC connection, the UE staying in the RRC idle state establishes the RRC connection with the E-UTRAN through an RRC connection procedure and then transitions to the RRC connected state. Examples of a case where the UE in the RRC idle state needs to establish the RRC connection are various, such as a case where uplink data transmission is necessary due to telephony attempt of the user or the like or a case where a response message is transmitted in response to a paging message received from the E-UTRAN.

[0067] A non-access stratum (NAS) layer belongs to an upper layer of the RRC layer and serves to perform session management, mobility management, or the like.

[0068] To manage mobility of the UE in the NAS layer, two states are defined, i.e., an EPS mobility management-REGISTERED (EMM-REGISTERED) state and an EMM-DEREGISTERED state. These two states apply to the UE and the MME. Initially, the UE is in the EMM-DEREGISTERED state. To access a network, the UE performs a procedure of registering to the network through an initial attach procedure. If the attach procedure is successfully completed, the UE and the MME enter the EMM-REGISTERED state.

[0069] To manage a signaling connection between the UE and the EPC, two states are defined, i.e., an EPS connection management (ECM)-IDLE state and an ECM-CONNECTED state. These two states apply to the UE and the MME. When a UE in the ECM-IDLE state establishes an RRC connection with the E-UTRAN, the UE enters the ECM-CONNECTED state. When an MME in the ECM-IDLE state establishes an S1 connection with the E-UTRAN, the MME enters the ECM-

CONNECTED state. When the UE is in the ECM-IDLE state, the E-UTRAN does not have context information of the UE. Therefore, the UE in the ECM-IDLE state performs a UE-based mobility related procedure such as cell selection or reselection without having to receive a command of the network. On the other hand, when the UE is in the ECM-CONNECTED state, mobility of the UE is managed by the command of the network. If a location of the UE in the ECM-IDLE state becomes different from a location known to the network, the UE reports the location of the UE to the network through a tracking area update procedure.

[0070] Next, system information will be disclosed.

[0071] The system information includes essential information that needs to be known to a UE to access a BS. Thus, the UE has to receive all system information before accessing the BS. Further, the UE always has to have the latest system information. Since the system information is information that must be known to all UEs in one cell, the BS periodically transmits the system information.

[0072] According to the section 5.2.2 of 3GPP TS 36.331 V8.7.0 (2009-09) "Radio Resource Control (RRC); Protocol specification (Release 8)", the system information is classified into a master information block (MIB), a scheduled block (SB), and a system information block (SIB). The MIB allows the UE to know a physical configuration (e.g., bandwidth) of a specific cell. The SB reports transmission information (e.g., a transmission period or the like) of SIBs. The SIB is a group of a plurality of pieces of system information related to each other. For example, an SIB includes only information of a neighboring cell, and another SIB includes only information of an uplink radio channel used by the UE.

[0073] In general, a service provided by the network to the UE can be classified into three types to be described below. Further, according to which service can be provided, the UE recognizes a cell type differently. A service type will be first described below, and then the cell type will be described.

[0074] 1) Limited service: This service provides an emergency call and an earthquake and tsunami warning system (ETWS), and can be provided in an acceptable cell.

[0075] 2) Normal service: This service denotes a public use service for general use, and can be provided in a suitable or normal cell.

[0076] 3) Operator service: This service denotes a service for a network service provider, and a cell can be used only by the network service provider and cannot be used by a normal user.

[0077] A service type provided by a cell can be identified as follows.

[0078] 1) Acceptable cell: A UE can receive a limited service in this cell. This cell is not barred from the perspective of the UE, and satisfies a cell selection criterion of the UE.

[0079] 2) Suitable cell: The UE can receive a regular service in this cell. This cell satisfies a

condition of an acceptable cell, and also satisfies additional conditions. Regarding the additional conditions, this cell has to belong to a PLMN to which the UE can access, and a tracking area update procedure of the UE must not be barred in this cell. If a specific cell is a CSG cell, this cell must be accessible by the UE as a CSG member.

[0080] 3) Barred cell: Information indicating that a cell is a barred cell is broadcast in this cell by using system information.

[0081] 4) Reserved cell: Information indicating that a cell is a reserved cell is broadcast in this cell by using system information.

[0082]

[0083] FIG. 4 is a flowchart showing an RRC connection establishment procedure.

[0084] A UE sends to a network an RRC connection request message for requesting an RRC connection (step S510). The network sends an RRC connection setup message in response to the RRC connection request (step S520). After receiving the RRC connection setup message, the UE enters an RRC connection mode.

[0085] The UE sends to the network an RRC connection setup complete message used to confirm successful completion of the RRC connection establishment (step S530).

[0086] FIG. 5 is a flowchart showing an RRC connection reconfiguration procedure. An RRC connection reconfiguration is used to modify an RRC connection. This is used to establish/modify/release an RB, to perform a handover, and to set up/modify/release a measurement.

[0087] A network sends to a UE an RRC connection reconfiguration message for modifying the RRC connection (step S610). In response to the RRC connection reconfiguration, the UE sends to the network an RRC connection reconfiguration complete message used to confirm successful completion of the RRC connection reconfiguration (step S620).

[0088] Now, a radio link failure will be described.

[0089] A UE persistently performs measurement to maintain quality of a radio link with a serving cell from which the UE receives a service. The UE determines whether communication is impossible in a current situation due to deterioration of the quality of the radio link with the serving cell. If it is determined that the quality of the serving cell is so poor that communication is almost impossible, the UE determines the current situation as a radio link failure.

[0090] If the radio link failure is determined, the UE gives up maintaining communication with the current serving cell, selects a new cell through a cell selection (or cell re-selection) procedure, and attempts RRC connection re-establishment to the new cell.

[0091] FIG. 6 shows an example of a radio link failure. An operation related to the radio link failure can be described in two phases.

[0092] In a first phase, while performing a normal operation, a UE determines whether a

current communication link has a problem. Upon detecting the problem, the UE declares a radio link problem, and waits for a recovery of the radio link during a first wait time T1. If the radio link is recovered before the expiry of the first wait time T1, the UE re-performs the normal operation. If the radio link is not recovered until the first wait time expires, the UE declares the radio link failure, and enters a second phase.

[0093] In the second phase, the UE waits again for the recovery of the radio link during a second wait time T2. If the radio link is not recovered until the second wait time expires, the UE enters an RRC idle state. Alternatively, the UE may perform an RRC re-establishment procedure.

[0094] The RRC connection re-establishment procedure is a procedure for re-establishing an RRC connection in an RRC connected state. Since the UE does not enter the RRC idle state, the UE does not initiate all connection configurations (e.g., radio bearer configuration, or the like). Instead, when the RRC connection re-establishment procedure starts, the UE temporarily suspends the use of other radio bearers except for an SRB. If the RRC connection re-establishment is successful, the UE resumes the use of radio bearers of which the use is temporarily suspended.

[0095] FIG. 7 is a flowchart showing a success of a connection re-establishment procedure.

[0096] A UE performs cell selection to select a cell. The UE receives system information to receive basis parameters for cell access in the selected cell. Then, the UE sends an RRC connection re-establishment request message to a BS (step S710).

[0097] If the selected cell is a cell having the context of the UE, i.e., a prepared cell, the BS accepts the RRC connection re-establishment request of the UE, and transmits an RRC connection re-establishment message to the UE (step S720). The UE transmits an RRC connection re-establishment complete message to the BS, and thus the RRC connection re-establishment procedure can be successful (step S730).

[0098] FIG. 8 is a flowchart showing a failure of a connection re-establishment procedure. A UE transmits an RRC connection re-establishment request message to a BS (step S710). If a selected cell is not a prepared cell, a BS transmits an RRC connection re-establishment reject message to the UE in response to an RRC connection re-establishment request (step S715).

[0099] Next, a procedure for selecting a cell by the UE will be described in detail.

[0100] If the UE is turned on or is camped on a cell, the UE may perform procedures for selecting/reselecting a cell having suitable quality in order to receive a service.

[0101] The UE in an RRC idle state needs to be ready to receive the service through the cell by selecting the cell having suitable quality all the time. For example, the UE that has been just turned on must select the cell having suitable quality so as to be registered into a network. If the UE that has stayed in an RRC connected state enters into the

RRC idle state, the UE must select a cell on which the UE itself is camped. As such, a process of selecting a cell satisfying a certain condition by the UE in order to stay in a service waiting state such as the RRC idle state is called a cell selection. The cell selection is performed in a state that the UE does not currently determine a cell on which the UE itself is camped in the RRC idle state, and thus it is very important to select the cell as quickly as possible. Therefore, if a cell provides radio signal quality greater than or equal to a predetermined level, the cell may be selected in the cell selection process of the UE even though the cell is not a cell providing best radio signal quality.

- [0102] Hereinafter, by referring to the 3GPP TS 36.304 V8.5.0 (2009-03) "User Equipment (UE) procedures in idle mode (Release 8)", a method and procedure for selecting a cell by a UE in 3GPP LTE will be described in detail.
- [0103] If power is initially turned on, the UE searches for available PLMNs and selects a suitable PLMN to receive a service. Subsequently, the UE selects a cell having a signal quality and property capable of receiving a suitable service among the cells provided by the selected PLMN.
- [0104] The cell selection process can be classified into two processes.
- [0105] One process is an initial cell selection process, and in this process, the UE does not have previous information on radio channels. Therefore, the UE searches for all radio channels to find a suitable cell. In each channel, the UE searches for the strongest cell. Subsequently, if a suitable cell satisfying cell selection criteria is found, the UE selects the cell.
- [0106] After the UE selects a certain cell through a cell selection process, the signal strength and quality between the UE and the BS may be changed due to the change of the UE mobility and wireless environment. Therefore, if the quality of the selected cell deteriorates, the UE may select another cell providing better quality. If a cell is reselected in this manner, a cell providing signal quality better than that of the currently selected cell is selected in general. This process is called a cell reselection. A basic purpose of the cell reselection process is generally to select a cell providing best quality to the UE from the perspective of the radio signal quality.
- [0107] In addition to the perspective of the radio signal quality, the network may notify the UE of a priority determined for each frequency. The UE that has received the priority may consider this priority more preferentially than the radio signal quality criteria during the cell reselection process.
- [0108] As described above, there is a method of selecting or reselecting a cell based on the signal property of the wireless environment. When a cell is selected for reselection in the cell reselection process, there may be cell reselection methods as described below, based on the RAT and frequency characteristics of the cell.

- [0109] - Intra-frequency cell reselection: A reselected cell is a cell having the same center-frequency and the same RAT as those used in a cell on which the UE is currently being camped.
- [0110] - Inter-frequency cell reselection: A reselected cell is a cell having the same RAT and a different center-frequency with respect to those used in the cell on which the UE is currently being camped.
- [0111] - Inter-RAT cell reselection: A reselected cell is a cell using a different RAT from a RAT used in the cell on which the UE is currently being camped.
- [0112] The principles of the cell reselection process are as follows.
- [0113] First, the UE measures quality of a serving cell and a neighboring cell for a cell reselection.
- [0114] Second, the cell reselection is performed based on cell reselection criteria. The cell reselection criteria have following characteristics with regard to the measurement of serving cells and neighboring cells.
- [0115] The intra-frequency cell reselection is basically based on ranking. The ranking is an operation for defining a criterion value for evaluation of the cell reselection and for ordering cells according to a magnitude of the criterion value by using the criterion value. A cell having the highest criterion is referred to as a best-ranked cell. The cell criterion value is a value to which a frequency offset or a cell offset is optionally applied on the basis of a value measured by the UE for a corresponding cell.
- [0116] The inter-frequency cell reselection is based on a frequency priority provided by the network. The UE attempts to camp on at a frequency having a top priority. The network may provide the same frequency priority to be commonly applied to UEs in a cell by using broadcast signaling or may provide a frequency-specific priority to each UE by using dedicated signaling for each UE.
- [0117] For the inter-frequency cell reselection, the network may provide parameters (e.g., frequency-specific offsets) for use in cell reselection to the UE for each frequency.
- [0118] For the intra-frequency cell reselection or the inter-frequency cell reselection, the network may provide a neighboring cell list (NCL) for use in the cell reselection to the UE. The NCL includes cell-specific parameters (e.g. cell-specific offsets) used in the cell reselection.
- [0119] For the intra-frequency or inter-frequency cell reselection, the network may provide the UE with a black list, i.e., a list of cells not to be selected in the cell reselection. The UE does not perform the cell reselection on cells included in the black list.
- [0120] Now, the ranking used in a cell reselection evaluation process will be described.
- [0121] A ranking criterion used to assign a priority to a cell is defined by Equation 1 below.
- [0122] [Math.1]

$$R_s = Q_{meas,s} + Q_{hyst}, \quad R_n = Q_{meas,n} - Q_{offset}$$

- [0123] Herein, R_s denotes a ranking value of a serving cell, R_n denotes a ranking criterion of a neighboring cell, $Q_{meas,s}$ denotes a quality value measured for the serving cell by the UE, $Q_{meas,n}$ denotes a quality value measured for the neighboring cell by the UE, Q_{hyst} denotes a hysteresis value for ranking, and Q_{offset} denotes an offset between two cells.
- [0124] In the intra-frequency cell reselection, if the UE receives an offset $Q_{offsets,n}$ between the serving cell and the neighboring cell, $Q_{offset}=Q_{offsets,n}$. Otherwise, $Q_{offset}=0$.
- [0125] In the inter-frequency cell reselection, if the UE receives the offset $Q_{offsets,n}$, $Q_{offset}=Q_{offsets,n}+Q_{frequency}$. Otherwise, $Q_{offset}=Q_{frequency}$.
- [0126] If the ranking criterion R_s of the serving cell and the ranking criterion R_n of the neighboring cell are not much different from each other and constantly vary, ranking orders of the serving cell and the neighboring cell may change frequently. Thus, the serving cell and the neighboring cell may be reselected alternately while changing their ranking orders frequently. In order to prevent the UE from reselecting two cells alternately, the hysteresis value Q_{hyst} is used to give a hysteresis in the cell reselection.
- [0127] The UE measures the ranking criterion R_s of the serving cell and the ranking criterion R_n of the neighboring cell according to the above equation. A cell having the greatest ranking criterion value is reselected by considering this cell as a best-ranked cell.
- [0128] In the above-mentioned cell reselection criterion, the quality of cells is considered as a most important factor when performing the cell reselection. If a reselected cell is not a suitable cell, the UE excludes the reselected cell or a frequency of the reselected cell from targets of the cell reselection.
- [0129] The following description is related to measurement and measurement report.
- [0130] It is necessary for a mobile communication system to support mobility of a UE. Therefore, the UE persistently measures quality of a serving cell providing a current service and quality of a neighboring cell. The UE reports a measurement result to a network at a proper time. The network provides optimal mobility to the UE by using a handover or the like.
- [0131] To provide information which can be helpful for a network operation of a service provider in addition to the purpose of supporting the mobility, the UE may perform measurement with a specific purpose determined by the network, and may report the measurement result to the network. For example, the UE receives broadcast information of a specific cell determined by the network. The UE may report to a serving cell a cell identify (also referred to as a global cell identity) of the specific cell, location identification information indicating a location of the specific cell (e.g., a tracking area code), and/or other cell information (e.g., whether it is a member of a closed subscriber

group (CSG) cell).

[0132] In a state of moving, if the UE determines that quality of a specific region is significantly bad, the UE may report a measurement result and location information on cells with bad quality to the network. The network may attempt to optimize the network on the basis of the measurement result reported from UEs which assist the network operation.

[0133] In a mobile communication system having a frequency reuse factor of 1, mobility is generally supported between different cells existing in the same frequency band. Therefore, in order to properly guarantee the UE mobility, the UE has to properly measure cell information and quality of neighboring cells having the same center frequency as a center frequency of a serving cell. Measurement on a cell having the same center frequency as the center frequency of the serving cell is referred to as intra-frequency measurement. The UE performs the intra-frequency measurement and reports a measurement result to the network, so as to achieve the purpose of the measurement result.

[0134] A mobile communication service provider may perform a network operation by using a plurality of frequency bands. If a service of a communication system is provided by using the plurality of frequency bands, optimal mobility can be guaranteed to the UE when the UE is able to properly measure cell information and quality of neighboring cells having a different center frequency from the center frequency of the serving cell. Measurement on a cell having the different center frequency from the center frequency of the serving cell is referred to as inter-frequency measurement. The UE has to be able to perform the inter-frequency measurement and report a measurement result to the network.

[0135] When the UE supports measurement on a heterogeneous network, measurement on a cell of the heterogeneous network may be performed according to a configuration of a BS. Such a measurement on the heterogeneous network is referred to as inter-radio access technology (RAT) measurement. For example, RAT may include a GSM EDGE radio access network (GERAN) and a UMTS terrestrial radio access network (UTRAN) conforming to the 3GPP standard, and may also include a CDMA 200 system conforming to the 3GPP2 standard.

[0136] FIG. 9 is a flowchart showing a conventional method of performing measurement.

[0137] A UE receives measurement configuration information from a BS (step S910). A message including the measurement configuration information is referred to as a measurement configuration message. The UE performs measurement based on the measurement configuration information (step S920). If a measurement result satisfies a reporting condition included in the measurement configuration information, the UE reports the measurement result to the BS (step S930). A message including the mea-

surement result is referred to as a measurement report message.

[0138] The measurement configuration information may include the following information.

[0139] (1) Measurement object: The object is on which the UE performs the measurements. The measurement object includes at least one of an intra-frequency measurement object which is an object of intra-frequency measurement, an inter-frequency measurement object which is an object of inter-frequency measurement, and an inter-RAT measurement object which is an object of inter-RAT measurement. For example, the intra-frequency measurement object may indicate a neighboring cell having the same frequency as a frequency of a serving cell, the inter-frequency measurement object may indicate a neighboring cell having a different frequency from a frequency of the serving cell, and the inter-RAT measurement object may indicate a neighboring cell of a different RAT from an RAT of the serving cell.

[0140] (2) Reporting configuration: This includes a reporting criterion and a reporting format. The reporting criterion is used to trigger the UE to send a measurement report and can either be periodical or a single event description. The reporting format is a quantity that the UE includes in the measurement report and associated information (e.g. number of cells to report).

[0141] (3) Measurement identify: Each measurement identity links one measurement object with one reporting configuration. By configuring multiple measurement identities, it is possible to link more than one measurement object to the same reporting configuration, as well as to link more than one reporting configuration to the same measurement object. The measurement identity is used as a reference number in the measurement report. The measurement identify may be included in the measurement report to indicate a specific measurement object for which the measurement result is obtained and a specific reporting condition according to which the measurement report is triggered.

[0142] (4) Quantity configuration: One quantity configuration is configured per RAT type. The quantity configuration defines the measurement quantities and associated filtering used for all event evaluation and related reporting of that measurement type. One filter can be configured per measurement quantity.

[0143] (5) Measurement gaps: Measurement gaps are periods that the UE may use to perform measurements when downlink transmission and uplink transmission are not scheduled.

[0144] To perform a measurement procedure, the UE has a measurement object, a reporting configuration, and a measurement identity.

[0145] In 3GPP LTE, the BS can assign only one measurement object to the UE with respect to one frequency. Events for triggering measurement reporting shown in the table below are defined in the section 5.5.4 of 3GPP TS 36.331 V8.5.0 (2009-03) "Evolved

Universal Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA) Radio Resource Control (RRC);
Protocol specification (Release 8)".

[0146] [Table 1]

Event	Reporting Condition
Event A1	Serving becomes better than threshold
Event A2	Serving becomes worse than threshold
Event A3	Neighbor becomes offset better than serving
Event A4	Neighbor becomes better than threshold
Event A5	Serving becomes worse than threshold1 and neighbor becomes better than threshold2
Event B1	Inter RAT neighbor becomes better than threshold
Event B2	Serving becomes worse than threshold1 and inter RAT neighbor becomes better than threshold2

[0147] If the measurement result of the UE satisfies the determined event, the UE transmits a measurement report message to the BS.

[0148] FIG. 10 shows an example of a measurement configuration assigned to a UE.

[0149] First, a measurement identity1 1001 associates an intra-frequency measurement object with a reporting configuration 1. The UE performs intra-frequency measurement. The reporting configuration 1 is used to determine a reporting type and a criterion for reporting a measurement result.

[0150] A measurement identity2 1002 is associated with the intra-frequency measurement object similarly to the measurement identifier1 1001, and associates the intra-frequency measurement object with a reporting configuration 2. The UE performs intra-frequency measurement. The reporting configuration 2 is used to determine a reporting format and a criterion for reporting a measurement result.

[0151] By using the measurement identity1 1001 and the measurement identity2 1002, the UE transmits a measurement result even if the measurement result on the intra-frequency measurement object satisfies any one of the reporting configuration 1 and the reporting configuration 2.

[0152] A measurement identity3 1003 associates an inter-frequency measurement object 1 with a reporting configuration 3. When a measurement result on the inter-frequency measurement object 1 satisfies a reporting criterion included in the reporting configuration 1, the UE reports the measurement result.

[0153] A measurement identity4 1004 associates an inter-frequency measurement object 2 with the reporting configuration 2. When a measurement result on the inter-frequency

measurement object 2 satisfies a reporting criterion included in the reporting configuration 2, the UE reports the measurement result.

[0154] Meanwhile, the measurement object, the reporting configuration, and/or the measurement identity can be added, modified, and/or deleted. To instruct such operations, the BS may transmit to the UE a new measurement configuration message or a measurement configuration modification message.

[0155] FIG. 11 shows an example of deleting a measurement identity. When a measurement identity2 1002 is deleted, measurement on a measurement object associated with the measurement identity2 1002 is suspended, and a measurement report is not transmitted. A reporting configuration or a measurement object associated with the deleted measurement identity may not be modified.

[0156] FIG. 12 shows an example of deleting a measurement object. When an inter-frequency measurement object 1 is deleted, a UE also deletes an associated measurement identifier3 1003. Measurement on the inter-frequency measurement object 1 is suspended, and a measurement report is not transmitted. However, a reporting configuration associated with the deleted inter-frequency measurement object 1 may not be modified or deleted.

[0157] When the reporting configuration is deleted, the UE also deletes an associated measurement identifier. The UE suspends measurement on an associated measurement object according to the associated measurement identifier. Measurement on the measurement object and measurement reporting are suspended. However, a measurement object associated with the deleted reporting configuration may not be modified or deleted.

[0158] FIG. 13 shows a conventional measurement procedure.

[0159] A UE receives a measurement configuration from a BS (S1310). The UE performs measurements for a measurement object identified by a measurement identity (S1320). The UE evaluates measurement results to determine whether a reporting criterion is satisfied (S1330). If the reporting criterion is satisfied (S1340), measurement report is triggered.

[0160] The measurement report may include a measurement identity, a measured quantity of a serving cell and a measurement result of a neighboring cell. The measurement identity identifies a measurement object on which the measurement report is triggered. The measurement result of the neighboring cell may include a cell identity of the neighboring cell and a measured quantity of the neighboring cell. The measured quantity may include at least one of RSRP and RSRQ.

[0161] The following description is about an H(e)NB.

[0162] In addition to a mobile network vendor, a mobile communication service can be provided via an eNB of an individual user or a specific vendor or a group owner. Such

an eNB is called a home node B (HNB) or a home eNB (HeNB). Hereinafter, both the HNB and HeNB are collectively referred to as the HeNB. The HeNB is basically used to provide specialized services only to members of a closed subscriber group (CSG). However, according to operation mode setting of the HeNB, the services may also be provided to other users in addition to the users of the CSG.

[0163] FIG. 14 shows an example of a wireless communication system for operating an HeNB.

[0164] Referring to FIG. 14, a home eNB gateway (HeNB GW) can be operated to provide a service to the HeNB as described above. HeNBs are connected to an EPC directly or via the HeNB GW. An MME regards the HeNB GW as a typical eNB. Further, the HeNB regards the HeNB GW as the MME. Therefore, the HeNB and the HeNB GW are connected by means of an S1 interface, and also the HeNB GW and the EPC are connected by means of the S1 interface. Furthermore, even in a case where the HeNB and the EPC are directly connected, they are connected by means of the S1 interface. A function of the HeNB is almost similar to a function of the typical eNB.

[0165] In general, the HeNB has radio transmission output power lower than that of an eNB owned by a mobile network vendor. Therefore, in general, the coverage provided by the HeNB is smaller than the coverage provided by the eNB. Due to such characteristics, a cell provided by the HeNB is often classified as a femto cell in contrast to a macro cell provided by the eNB from the perspective of the coverage. Meanwhile, from the perspective of provided services, when the HeNB provides the services only to the CSG group, a cell provided by this HeNB is referred to as a CSG cell.

[0166] Each CSG has its own identity which is called a CSG identity (CSG ID). The UE may have a list of CSGs to which the UE belongs as a member thereof, and this CSG list may change by a request of the UE or by a command of the network. In general, one HeNB can support one CSG.

[0167] The HeNB delivers the CSG ID of the CSG supported by the HNB itself by using system information, so as to allow access of only a member UE of the corresponding CSG. When the CSG cell is found, the UE may read the CSG ID included in the system information to determine which CSG is supported by the CSG cell. The UE that has read the CSG ID regards the corresponding cell as an accessible cell only if the UE itself is a member of the corresponding CSG cell.

[0168] It is not always required for the HeNB to allow access of the CSG UE. Based on the configuration setting of the HeNB, access of a non-CSG member UE may also be allowed. According to the configuration setting of the HeNB, access is allowed for a different UE. Herein, the configuration setting denotes setting of an operation mode of the HeNB. The operation mode of the HeNB is classified into three modes described below, depending on a type of UE for which a service is provided.

- [0169] 1) Closed access mode: A mode in which services are provided to particular CSG members only. The HeNB provides a CSG cell.
- [0170] 2) Open access mode: A mode in which services are provided without any restriction of particular CSG members, similarly to the typical eNB. The HeNB provides a typical cell instead of a CSG cell.
- [0171] 3) Hybrid access mode: A mode in which CSG services are provided to particular CSG members and also services are provided to non-CSG members, similarly to a typical cell. It is recognized as a CSG cell for the CSG member UE, and recognized as a typical cell for the non-CSG member UE. This cell is called a hybrid cell.
- [0172] The HeNB notifies to the UE whether a cell serviced by the HeNB is a CSG cell or a typical cell, and thus allows the UE to know whether the UE can access to the cell. When operating in the closed access mode, the HeNB broadcasts that the cell serviced by the HeNB is the CSG cell by using system information. When operating in the open access mode, the HeNB broadcasts that the cell serviced by the HeNB is not the CSG cell by using the system information. In this manner, the HeNB inserts a CSG indicator into the system information, wherein the CSG indicator indicates whether the cell being serviced by the HeNB is the CSG cell or not. For example, the CSG cell broadcasts the CSG indicator by setting it to 'TRUE'. If the cell being serviced is not the CSG cell, a method of setting the CSG indicator to 'FALSE' or omitting transmission of the CSG indicator may be used. Since the UE has to distinguish the CSG cell provided by the eNB from the typical cell, the typical eNB may also transmit the CSG indicator so as to allow the UE to know that the cell type provided by the eNB is the typical cell. The typical eNB may allow the UE to know that the cell type provided by the eNB is the typical cell by not transmitting the CSG indicator. The CSG-related parameters transmitted by the corresponding cell for each cell type are represented in Table 2. Subsequently, a type of UE for which access is accepted is represented in Table 3.

[0173] [Table 2]

	CSG Cell	Typical Cell
CSG Indicator	'CSG Cell' is indicated	'Non-CSG cell' is indicated, or not transmitted
CSG ID	Supported CSG ID is transmitted	Not transmitted

[0174]

[Table 3]

	CSG Cell	Typical Cell
UE not supporting CSG	Access denied	Access accepted
Non-CSG member UE	Access denied	Access accepted
CSG member UE	Access accepted	Access accepted

- [0175] In general, CSG cells and (normal) macro cells may be concurrently managed at a particular frequency. Such a frequency is hereinafter called a mixed carrier frequency. The network may reserve a physical layer cell identity for the CSG cell at the mixed carrier frequency. The physical layer cell identity is called a physical cell identity (PCI) in E-UTRAN and is called a physical scrambling code (PSC) in UTRAN. For clarity, the physical layer cell identity will be expressed by the PCI. In the mixed carrier frequency, the CSG cell notifies information on the PCI reserved for the CSG cell at a current frequency by using the system information. The UE that has received this information can determine whether or not this cell is a CSG cell from the PCI of the cell when a certain cell is found at the corresponding frequency.
- [0176] In a case where a UE does not support the CSG-related function or has no CSG list to which the UE itself belongs, the UE does not need to regard a CSG cell as a selectable cell during a cell selection/reselection process. In this case, the UE checks for only the PCI of the cell, and may immediately excludes the corresponding cell in the cell selection/reselection process if the PCI is a reserved PCI for the CSG. In general, the PCI of a certain cell can be immediately known during a process of checking for the existence of the corresponding cell in a physical layer by the UE.
- [0177] In case of a UE having a CSG list to which the UE itself belongs, when the UE wants to know a list of neighboring CSG cells at a mixed carrier frequency, it may be known that the corresponding cell is a CSG cell if only a cell having the PCI reserved for CSG is found, instead of individually checking for the CSG ID of the system information for every cell found in the whole PCI range.
- [0178] Now, a cell reselection method related to a CSG cell will be described.
- [0179] The CSG cell is a cell for providing better-quality CSG services to its member UE. Therefore, when the UE is camped on the CSG cell, an inter-frequency cell reselection may not be appropriate in terms of QoS even if the UE finds an inter-frequency having a higher priority than a frequency priority of a serving frequency.
- [0180] When the UE is camped on the CSG cell, in order to prevent an inter-frequency cell having a higher priority than the serving frequency from being selected in a cell reselection, if a CSG cell of a certain frequency is determined as a best-ranked cell according to a cell reselection evaluation criterion at that frequency, the UE assumes

that a frequency priority of the corresponding frequency is higher than other frequencies. As such, when a frequency priority higher than a frequency priority that can be assigned by the network is assigned by the UE to a particular frequency, such a frequency priority is called an 'implicit highest priority'. In doing so, it is possible to help the UE to camp on the CSG cell without violation of the existing cell selection rule in which the frequency priority is first considered when the UE performs the cell reselection. If the UE camped on the CSG cell reselects a non-CSG cell of the corresponding frequency, the UE withdraws the assumption on the implicit highest priority of the CSG cell, and uses a frequency priority value delivered by the network in a cell reselection evaluation process. If the UE finds another best-ranked CSG cell at a frequency having the same frequency priority when the UE is camped on the CSG cell, whether the UE will reselect the CSG cell or will stay in the CSG cell on which the UE is currently being camped on is determined based on an implementation of the UE.

[0181] Subsequently, a handover method related to a CSG cell will be described.

[0182] While the UE is in RRC_CONNECTED state, the UE performs normal measurement and mobility procedures based on configuration provided by the network. The UE is not required to support manual selection of CSG IDs while in RRC_CONNECTED state. Handover to a HNB/HeNB follows the framework of UE assisted network controlled handover. Handover to a HNB/HeNB is different from the normal handover procedure in three aspects.

[0183] 1. Proximity Evaluation: in case the UE is able to determine, using autonomous search procedures, that it is near a CSG or hybrid cell whose CSG ID is in the UE's CSG whitelist, the UE may provide to the source eNB an indication of proximity. The proximity indication may be used as follows:

[0184] - If a measurement configuration is not present for the concerned frequency/RAT, the source eNB may configure the UE to perform measurements and reporting for the concerned frequency/RAT.

[0185] - The source eNB may determine whether to perform other actions related to handover to HNB/HeNBs based on having received a proximity indication (for example, the source eNB may not configure the UE to acquire system information of the HNB/HeNB unless it has received a proximity indication).

[0186] 2.PSC/PCI Confusion: due to the typical cell size of HNB/HeNBs being much smaller than macro cells, there can be multiple HNBs/HeNBs within the coverage of the source eNB that have the same PSC/PCI. This leads to a condition referred to as PSC/PCI confusion, wherein the source eNB is unable to determine the correct target cell for handover from the PSC/PCI included in the measurement reports from the UE. PSC/PCI confusion is solved by the UE reporting the global cell identity of the target HNB/HeNB.

- [0187] 3.Access Control: if the target cell is a hybrid cell, prioritization of allocated resources may be performed based on the UE's membership status. Access control is done by a two step process, where first the UE reports the membership status based on the CSG ID received from the target cell and the UE's CSG whitelist, and then the network verifies the reported status.
- [0188] Mobility from eNB/HeNB to a HeNB's CSG/hybrid cell takes place with the S1 Handover procedure. In the following call flow the source cell can be an eNB or a HeNB. The procedure applies to any scenario where the CSG ID is provided by the UE or provided by the source eNB.
- [0189] FIG. 15 is a flowchart showing a handover procedure for CSG cell.
- [0190] Referring to the Fig.15, the handover procedure for the CSG cell follows:
- [0191] Step.1 The source eNB configures the UE with proximity indication control. For this, the source eNB may transmit a reconfiguration message to the UE. The configuration message includes information for a configuration of the proximity indication.
- [0192] Step.2 The UE sends an "entering" proximity indication when it determines it may be near a cell (based on autonomous search procedures) whose CSG ID is in the UE's CSG whitelist. The proximity indication includes the RAT and frequency of the cell.
- [0193] Step.3 If a measurement configuration is not present for the concerned frequency/RAT the source eNB configures the UE with relevant measurement configuration including measurement gaps as needed, so that the UE can perform measurements on the reported RAT and frequency. For this, the source eNB transmit a reconfiguration message to the UE. The reconfiguration message may include information for a configuration of the measurement.
- [0194] The network may also use the proximity indication to minimize the requesting of handover preparation information of CSG/hybrid cells by avoiding requesting such information when the UE is not in the geographical area where cells whose CSG IDs are in the UEs CSG White-list are located.
- [0195] Step.4 The UE sends a measurement report including the PCI (e.g., due to triggered event A3).
- [0196] Step.5 The source eNB configures the UE to perform system information acquisition and reporting of a particular PCI.
- [0197] Step.6 The UE performs the system information acquisition using autonomous gaps, i.e., the UE may suspend reception and transmission with the source eNB within the limits defined in [TS 36.133] to acquire the relevant system information from the target HeNB.
- [0198] Step.7 The UE sends a measurement report including (E-)CGI, TAI, CSG ID and "member/non-member" indication.
- [0199] Step.8 The source eNB includes the target E-CGI and the CSG ID in the Handover

Required message sent to the MME. If the target is a hybrid cell the Cell Access Mode of the target is included.

- [0200] Step.9 The MME performs UE access control to the CSG cell based on the CSG ID received in the Handover Required message and the stored CSG subscription data for the UE. If the access control procedure fails, the MME ends the handover procedure by replying with the Handover Preparation Failure message. If the Cell Access Mode is present, the MME determines the CSG Membership Status of the UE handing over to the hybrid cell and includes it in the Handover Request message.
- [0201] Steps.10-11 The MME sends the Handover Request message to the target HeNB including the target CSG ID received in the Handover Required message. If the target is a hybrid cell, the CSG Membership Status will be included in the Handover Request message.
- [0202] Step.12 The target HeNB verifies that the CSG ID received in the Handover Request message matches the CSG ID broadcast in the target cell and if such validation is successful it allocates appropriate resources. UE prioritisation may also be applied if the CSG Membership Status indicates that the UE is a member.
- [0203] Steps.13-14 The target HeNB sends the Handover Request Acknowledge (ACK) message to the MME via the HeNB GW if present.
- [0204] Step.15 The MME sends the Handover Command message to the source eNB.
- [0205] Step.16 The source eNB transmits the Handover Command (RRC Connection Re-configuration message including mobility control information) to the UE.
- [0206] The above Steps 1-9, 15 and 16 may also be applied to inter-RAT mobility from LTE to HNB.
- [0207] After sending an “entering” proximity indication (step 2), if the UE determines that it is no longer near a cell whose CSG ID is in the UE’s CSG whitelist, the UE sends a “leaving” proximity indication to the source eNB. Upon reception of this indication, the source eNB may reconfigure the UE to stop measurements on the reported RAT and frequency.
- [0208] In the above procedure, steps 2 and 3 may not be performed in case the UE has not previously visited the HeNB, e.g., when the UE first visits a hybrid cell.
- [0209] The PCI confusion is resolved by steps 5, 6 and 7. The source eNB can request the system information acquisition and reporting for any PCI, not limited to PSCs/PCIs of CSG or hybrid cells.
- [0210] Meanwhile, the development of mobile communication techniques results in the increase in the number of communication service subscribers, and thus there may be a case where a significantly great number of UEs exist in one macro cell coverage and a service must be received from the macro cell. A communication vendor may desire to offload traffic of the macro cell in order to provide a more effective and better service

to the subscriber. For this, a communication system can be implemented in such a manner that cells having a relatively small coverage are installed in a specific location of a macro cell having a wide coverage so that UEs within the small cell coverage can receive a service from a small cell instead of the macro cell. Such a communication system can be called a heterogeneous network.

[0211] Examples of the small-coverage cell include a micro cell, a pico cell, a femto cell, etc. Hereinafter, embodiments of the present invention will be described in detail by taking the pico cell for example.

[0212] In the aforementioned communication system, the UE must be able to preferentially consider a cell corresponding to a pico cell coverage as a mobility target.

[0213] After measurement, the UE can be configured to apply a cell-specific offset or a frequency-specific offset during a measurement estimation procedure, and thus it can be implemented such that a corresponding cell or a cell related to a corresponding frequency can be selected with high priority or less priority. For example, regarding a cell to which a positive offset is applied, the UE in an RRC_IDLE state reselects the cell preferentially. Meanwhile, regarding the cell to which the positive offset is applied, the UE in an RRC_CONNECTED state first performs a measurement report with respect to a serving cell, and thus a handover to the cell can be first generated.

[0214] Meanwhile, a problem may arise when an offset is applied without a limitation on a range of applying the offset in order to perform offloading from a macro cell to a pico cell. For example, when it is implemented such that a frequency offset is applied to a frequency at which the pico cell operates without other conditions, there may be a problem in that the UE moves by regarding another macro cell operating at the frequency as a preferential mobility target.

[0215] The present invention provides a communication method in which the UE can apply a cell-specific offset and/or a specific frequency according to a condition in mobility evaluation. The mobility evaluation can include a process of determining whether to perform the aforementioned cell reselection and/or an evaluation process of measurement result reporting for a handover. This will be described in greater detail hereinafter with reference to the accompanying drawings.

[0216] FIG. 16 shows a communication method based on mobility evaluation of a UE according to an embodiment of the present invention.

[0217] Referring to FIG. 16, the UE receives evaluation basis information applicable to the mobility evaluation from a network (step S1610), and determines whether a domain condition is satisfied on the basis of the evaluation basis information (step S1620).

[0218] The evaluation basis information includes offset information applicable to mobility evaluation of the UE and domain information indicating the domain condition to which the offset information is applicable. When performing mobility evaluation, the UE can

determine whether to apply the offset on the basis of whether the domain condition is satisfied.

- [0219] The domain condition may be a geographical area condition. The UE can obtain information regarding a current location of the UE from the mobile communication network and/or a heterogeneous network. The heterogeneous network is a global navigation satellite system (GNSS). For example, the GNSS may be a global positioning system (GPS). Therefore, after obtaining the geographical domain condition to which the offset will be applied, the UE can receive information regarding the current location and thus can determine whether to perform mobility evaluation by applying the offset at the current location. The geographical area condition may indicate an area represented by a latitude, a longitude, and/or an altitude.
- [0220] The domain condition may be a condition related to a measurement result of the UE. The measurement result-related condition may be a specific threshold related to a serving cell measurement value. If the serving cell measurement value measured by the UE is greater than or equal to the specific threshold, the UE can determine to apply the offset in the mobility evaluation. Alternatively, if the serving cell measurement value is less than or equal to the specific threshold, the UE can determine to apply the offset in the mobility evaluation. The threshold can be given as a specific range. The UE can determine to apply the offset in the mobility estimation if the serving cell measurement result is greater than or equal to a first threshold and less than or equal to a second threshold.
- [0221] The measurement result-related condition may be a specific threshold related to a neighbor cell measurement value. The UE can determine to apply the offset in the mobility evaluation if the neighbor cell measurement value measured by the UE is greater than or equal to a specific threshold. Alternatively, the UE can determine to apply the offset in the mobility evaluation if the neighbor cell measurement value is less than or equal to the specific threshold. The threshold may be given as a specific range. The UE can determine to apply the offset in the mobility evaluation if the neighbor cell measurement result is greater than or equal to a first threshold and less than or equal to a second threshold.
- [0222] The evaluation basis information may further include additional limit information. The additional limit information may indicate a range which limits an offset applied to the mobility evaluation. The additional limit information may indicate a target cell to which the offset is applied or may include cell limit information indicating a target cell to which the offset is not applied. In this case, the additional limit information can be implemented as an identification list of a corresponding cell. In addition, the additional limit information may include frequency limit information indicating a frequency of a cell to which the offset is applied or is not applied. In this case, the additional limit in-

formation can be implemented as a frequency list.

[0223] If a domain condition of domain information is satisfied, the UE applies the offset (step S1630). The UE may apply the offset differently according to whether the additional limit information is received by the UE.

[0224] First, when the UE receives the cell limit information and the frequency limit information as the additional limit information, the UE can apply the offset only for a permitted cell in a permitted frequency.

[0225] When the UE receives only the frequency limit information as the additional limit information, the UE can apply the offset only for all cells of the permitted frequency.

[0226] When the UE receives only the cell limit information as the additional limit information, the UE can apply the offset only for a permitted cell of all frequencies, that is, irrespective of frequency.

[0227] When the UE does not receive the additional limit information, that is, when the additional limit information is not included in the evaluation basis information, the UE can apply the offset for all cells of all frequencies.

[0228] The UE performs mobility evaluation(step S1640). The mobility evaluation may be cell reselection evaluation of the UE in an RRC_IDLE state. The mobility evaluation may be measurement report evaluation of the UE in the RRC_IDLE state.

[0229] When it is determined to apply the offset, the UE can perform mobility evaluation by applying the offset, and when it is determined not to apply the offset, the UE can perform mobility evaluation without applying the offset.

[0230] The mobility evaluation performed by the UE can be performed on the basis of a mobility evaluation equation. The mobility evaluation performed on the basis of the mobility evaluation equation can be implemented as follows. Hereinafter, variables constituting the mobility evaluation equation have meanings as follows, and an offset obtained using evaluation basis information is called a domain offset to distinguish from another offset.

[0231] Ms: Measured result of serving cell

[0232] Mn: Measured results of neighbor cell

[0233] O_D: Domain Offset

[0234] O_hyst: hysteresis offset

[0235] O_c: cell specific offset

[0236] O_f: frequency offset

[0237] 1.If the mobility evaluation equation compares Rs and Rn.

[0238] $R_s = M_s + O_{\text{hyst}}$

[0239] $R_n = M_n + O_c + O_f + O_D$

[0240] According to the equation above, it can be determined such that mobility evaluation is satisfied if $R_s < R_n$, or mobility evaluation is satisfied if $R_s > R_n$.

- [0241] 2.If the mobility evaluation equation compares R_s and threshold.
- [0242] $R_s = M_s + O_{\text{hyst}} + O_{\text{D}}$
- [0243] According to the equation above, it can be determined such that the mobility evaluation equation is satisfied if $R_s > \text{threshold}$ or the mobility evaluation equation is satisfied if $R_s < \text{threshold}$.
- [0244] 3.If the mobility evaluation equation compares R_n and threshold.
- [0245] $R_n = M_n + O_{\text{c}} + O_{\text{f}} + O_{\text{D}}$
- [0246] According to the equation above, it can be determined such that the mobility evaluation equation is satisfied if $R_n > \text{threshold}$ or the mobility evaluation equation is satisfied if $R_n < \text{threshold}$.
- [0247] In the mobility evaluation equation used as a basis of the aforementioned mobility evaluation, if it is determined that the UE does not apply the offset, the O_{D} term can be omitted or can be regarded as 0. The aforementioned specific embodiment of the mobility evaluation is for exemplary purposes only, and can be performed on the basis of another mobility evaluation equation related to the mobility evaluation.
- [0248] Referring back to FIG. 16, the UE performs a next procedure based on the mobility evaluation result (step S1650). If the mobility evaluation is not satisfied, the UE can perform persistent measurement.
- [0249] If the mobility evaluation is satisfied, the UE can select a specific cell that satisfies the mobility evaluation as a mobility target cell. Thereafter, the UE in the RRC_IDLE state can perform a cell reselection with respect to the mobility target cell, and the UE in the RRC_CONNECTED state can report a measurement result of the mobility target cell to a serving cell and/or a network to perform a handover.
- [0250] Meanwhile, in a heterogeneous network, to perform inter-frequency measurement, the UE performs measurement on a frequency of a neighboring cell other than a serving cell frequency. When the UE located in a macro cell coverage exists in a coverage of a pico cell that uses another frequency, inter-frequency measurement is preferable in a sense that it provides a better service environment to the UE. However, if the UE is present in a location which is not related to the pico cell coverage, inter-frequency measurement may be an unnecessary operation of the UE. The performing of the unnecessary measurement causes not only a phenomenon in which a battery of the UE is unnecessarily consumed but also performance deterioration of a communication system due to a decrease in a time for receiving a service by the UE from a macro cell which is a serving cell.
- [0251] In the network environment above, the aforementioned evaluation basis information can also be applied to a method in which it is determined whether the UE starts measurement, and mobility evaluation is performed by using the measurement result. For example, it can be implemented such that measurement can also be performed for a

neighbor cell if a specific condition is satisfied while the measurement is performed only for a serving cell. In addition, it can be implemented such that the measurement can be performed for an intra/inter-frequency cell if a specific condition is satisfied while the measurement is performed only for the intra-frequency cell. The method above will be described in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

[0252] FIG. 17 shows another example of a communication method based on mobility estimation of a UE according to an embodiment of the present invention.

[0253] Referring to FIG. 17, the UE receives evaluation basis information applicable to the mobility estimation from a network (step S1710), and determines whether a domain condition is satisfied on the basis of the evaluation basis information (step S1720).

[0254] The evaluation basis information may include domain condition information and additional limit information described above with reference to FIG. 16. However, a cell identification list and a frequency list can be implemented as the additional limit information, and can be used to limit a case where a UE performs measurement or a case where the UE does not perform measurement in subsequent steps.

[0255] In addition, the UE can receive measurement limit indication information. The measurement limit indication information indicates a limit for a range in which the UE performs measurement if a domain condition is not satisfied. For example, the measurement limit indication information can instruct the UE to perform measurement only for a serving cell or can instruct the UE to perform measurement only for an intra-frequency cell. However, the limit for the measurement range of the UE is for exemplary purposes only, and thus if the domain condition is satisfied, the implementation can include all cases where a changed measurement range is triggered. The measurement limit indication information can be transmitted by being included in the evaluation basis information or may be transmitted by using an additional message. The UE can be implemented to operate according to a measurement range which is limited/configured by a user in advance without having to receive the measurement limit indication information.

[0256] Since specific examples of the step S1720 in which the UE determines whether the domain condition is satisfied are the same as or similar to the step S1620 of FIG. 16, detailed explanations thereof will be omitted.

[0257] If a domain condition of domain information is satisfied, the UE performs measurement depending on a measurement range changed according to a given situation (step S1730). When the UE has previously performed measurement on the serving cell, the UE can perform measurement on the serving cell and/or a neighboring cell. In this case, the UE performs neighbor cell measurement even if quality of the serving cell is greater than or equal to a specific threshold. If the UE has previously performed measurement only for the intra-frequency cell, the UE can perform measurement for the

intra-frequency cell and/or an inter-frequency cell.

[0258] Meanwhile, a measurement target cell included in the measurement range of the UE can be more limited according to whether the additional limit information is received.

[0259] First, when the UE receives cell limit information and frequency limit information as the additional limit information, the UE can perform measurement only for a permitted cell in a permitted frequency among measurement target cells.

[0260] When the UE receives only the frequency limit information as the additional limit information, the UE can perform measurement only for a cell of the permitted frequency among the measurement target cells.

[0261] When the UE receives only the cell limit information as the additional limit information, the UE can perform measurement only for a permitted cell among the measurement target cells.

[0262] When the UE does not receive the additional limit information, that is, when the additional limit information is not included in evaluation basis information, the UE can perform measurement for all of the measurement target cells.

[0263] Referring back to FIG. 17, the UE performs mobility evaluation on the basis of the measurement result (step S1740). The mobility evaluation performed by the UE can be performed for the measurement target cell similarly to the step S1640 of FIG. 16. However, the applying of the offset can be omitted.

[0264] The UE performs a next procedure based on the mobility evaluation result (step S1750). If the mobility evaluation is not satisfied, the UE can perform persistent measurement.

[0265] If the mobility evaluation is satisfied, the UE can select a specific cell that satisfies the mobility evaluation as a mobility target cell. Thereafter, the UE in the RRC_IDLE state can perform a cell reselection with respect to the mobility target cell, and the UE in the RRC_CONNECTED state can report a measurement result of the mobility target cell to a serving cell and/or a network to perform a handover.

[0266] The aforementioned mobility evaluation methods of FIG. 16 and FIG. 17 can be implemented by being combined with each other. This will be described below with reference to FIG. 18.

[0267] FIG. 18 shows another example of a mobility estimation method according to an embodiment of the present invention.

[0268] Referring to FIG. 18, a UE receives evaluation basis information applicable to mobility estimation from a network (step S1810), and determines whether a domain condition is satisfied on the basis of the evaluation basis information (step S1820).

[0269] The evaluation basis information may include offset information, domain condition information, and additional limit information described above with reference to FIG. 16. A cell identification list and a frequency list can be implemented as the additional

limit information, and can be used to determine whether to apply the offset in mobility evaluation and/or can be used by the UE to limit a measurement range.

[0270] If a domain condition of domain information is satisfied, the UE performs measurement depending on a measurement range changed according to a given situation (step S1830). This process can refer to the step of S1730 of FIG. 17.

[0271] The UE applies the offset (step S1840). The step of applying the offset can refer to the step S1630 of FIG. 16.

[0272] The UE performs mobility evaluation on the basis of the measurement result and the applying of the offset (step S1850). The mobility evaluation can be performed similarly to the step S1640 of FIG. 16 with respect to a measurement target cell.

[0273] The UE performs a next procedure based on the mobility evaluation result (step S1860). If the mobility evaluation is not satisfied, the UE can perform persistent measurement. If the mobility evaluation is satisfied, the UE in an RRC_IDLE state can perform a cell reselection, and the UE in an RRC_CONNECTED state can report a measurement result to a serving cell and/or a network to perform a handover.

[0274] FIG. 19 is a block diagram of a wireless apparatus according to an embodiment of the present invention. The apparatus implements an operation of a UE in the embodiments of FIG. 16 to FIG. 18.

[0275] A wireless apparatus 1900 includes a processor 1910, a memory 1920, and a radio frequency (RF) unit 1930. The processor 1910 implements the proposed functions, procedures, and/or methods. The processor 1910 receives evaluation basis information. The processor 1910 determines whether a domain condition is satisfied, and performs mobility evaluation by applying an offset according to the determination result. The UE performs a next procedure such as a cell reselection and/or a measurement report for a handover on the basis of the mobility evaluation result. The aforementioned embodiments of FIG. 16 to FIG. 18 can be implemented by the processor 1910 and the memory 1920.

[0276] The RF unit 1930 coupled to the processor 1910 transmits and receives a radio signal.

[0277] The processor may include an application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC), a separate chipset, a logic circuit, and/or a data processing unit. The memory may include a read-only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM), a flash memory, a memory card, a storage medium, and/or other equivalent storage devices. The RF unit may include a base-band circuit for processing a radio signal. When the embodiment of the present invention is implemented in software, the aforementioned methods can be implemented with a module (i.e., process, function, etc.) for performing the aforementioned functions. The module may be stored in the memory and may be performed by the processor. The memory may be located inside or outside

the processor, and may be coupled to the processor by using various well-known means.

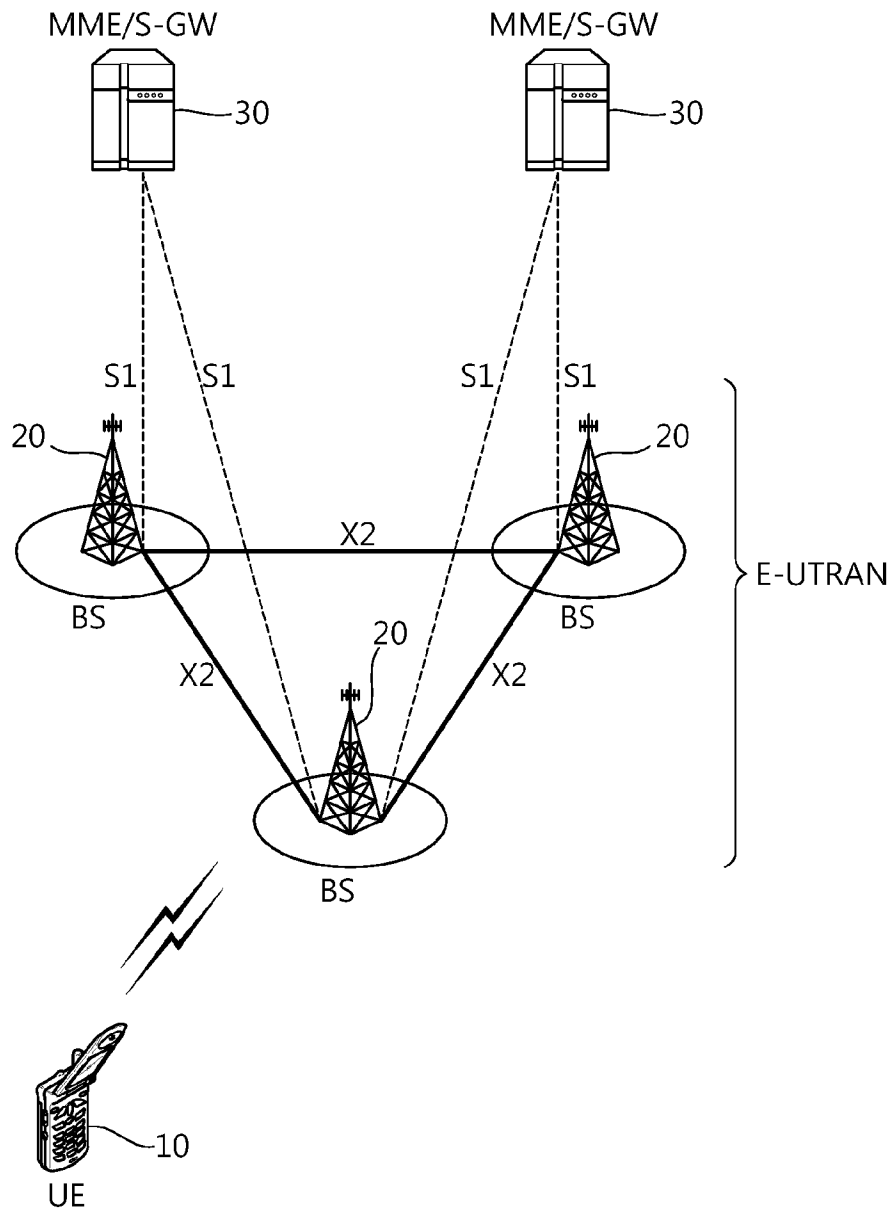
[0278] Although the aforementioned exemplary system has been described on the basis of a flowchart in which steps or blocks are listed in sequence, the steps of the present invention are not limited to a certain order. Therefore, a certain step may be performed in a different step or in a different order or concurrently with respect to that described above. Further, it will be understood by those ordinary skilled in the art that the steps of the flowcharts are not exclusive. Rather, another step may be included therein or one or more steps may be deleted within the scope of the present invention.

Claims

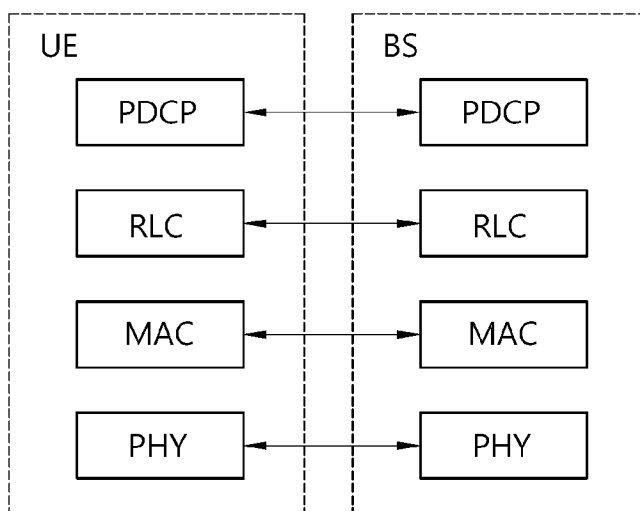
- [Claim 1] A method for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system, the method comprising:
receiving, by a user equipment (UE), evaluation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising an offset value for mobility evaluation and a domain condition
determining, by the UE, whether the domain condition is satisfied;
performing, by the UE, the mobility evaluation for at least one neighbor cell based on the offset value, if the domain condition is satisfied; and
selecting, by the UE, a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a pre-determined criterion.
- [Claim 2] The method of claim 1, wherein the domain condition indicates a geographical area.
- [Claim 3] The method of claim 2, further comprising
receiving, by the UE, positioning information which indicates a location of the UE.
- [Claim 4] The method of claim 3, wherein the step of the determining whether the domain condition is satisfied includes, if the location of the UE is located in the geographical area, determining that the domain condition is satisfied.
- [Claim 5] The method of claim 1, wherein the domain condition indicates a threshold for a serving cell.
- [Claim 6] The method of claim 5, wherein the step of the determining whether the domain condition is satisfied includes, if a measurement result for the serving cell is less than the threshold, determining that the domain condition is satisfied.
- [Claim 7] The method of claim 1, wherein the domain condition indicates a threshold for a neighbor cell.
- [Claim 8] The method of claim 7, wherein the step of the determining whether the domain condition is satisfied includes, if a measurement result for the neighbor cell is greater than the threshold, determining that the domain condition is satisfied.
- [Claim 9] The method of claim 1, wherein the evaluation basis information further includes a limit cell list.
- [Claim 10] The method of claim 9, wherein the at least one neighbor cell is included in the limit cell list.

- [Claim 11] The method of claim 1, wherein the evaluation basis information further includes a limit frequency list.
- [Claim 12] The method of claim 11, wherein at least one frequency in which the at least one neighbor cell operates is included in the limit frequency list.
- [Claim 13] The method of claim 1, further comprising performing, by the UE, a cell reselection with the cell, if the UE operates in an RRC_IDLE mode.
- [Claim 14] The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting, by the UE, a measurement report of the cell to a serving cell, if the UE operates in an RRC_CONNECTED mode.
- [Claim 15] A wireless device comprising:
a radio frequency (RF) unit transmitting and receiving a radio signal;
and
a processor operably coupled to the RF unit, wherein the processor is configured to:
receive estimation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising an offset value for mobility evaluation and a domain condition;
determine whether the domain condition is satisfied;
perform the mobility evaluation for at least one neighbor cell based on the offset value, if the domain condition is satisfied; and
select a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a predetermined criterion.
- [Claim 16] A method for communication based on mobility evaluation in a wireless communication system, the method comprising:
receiving, by a user equipment (UE), evaluation basis information from a network, the evaluation basis information comprising a domain condition;
determining, by the UE, whether a domain condition is satisfied;
measuring, by the UE, at least one neighbor cell, when the domain condition is satisfied;
performing, by the UE, the mobility evaluation for the neighbor cell based on the offset value; and
selecting, by the UE, a cell among the at least one neighbor cell as a mobility target cell, if a result of the mobility evaluation satisfies a predetermined criterion.

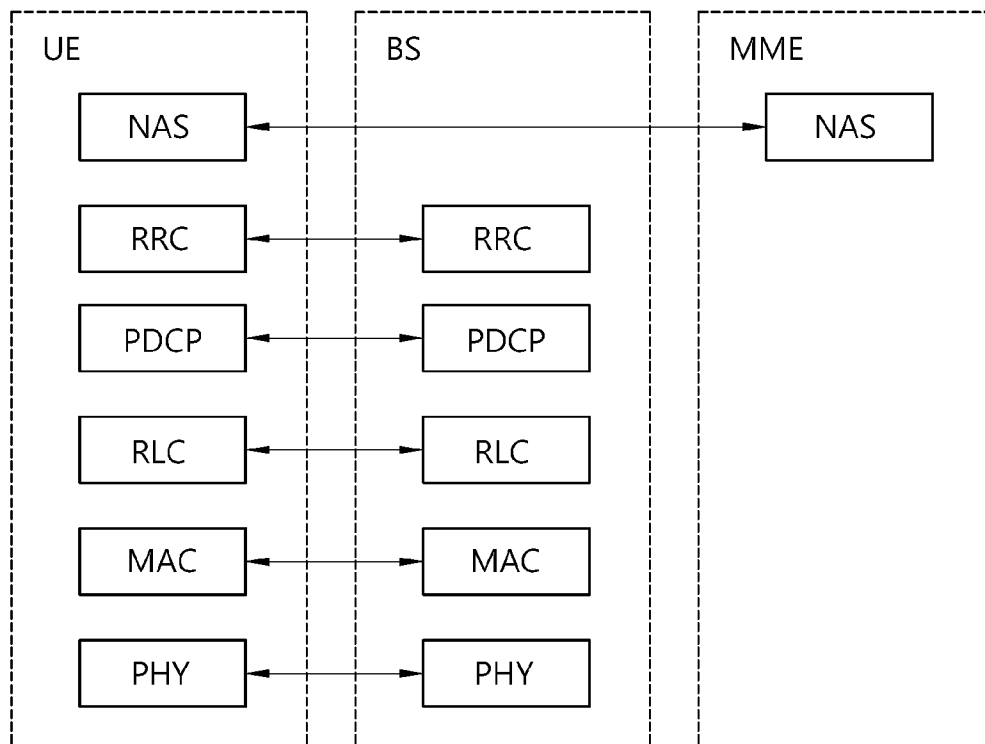
[Fig. 1]



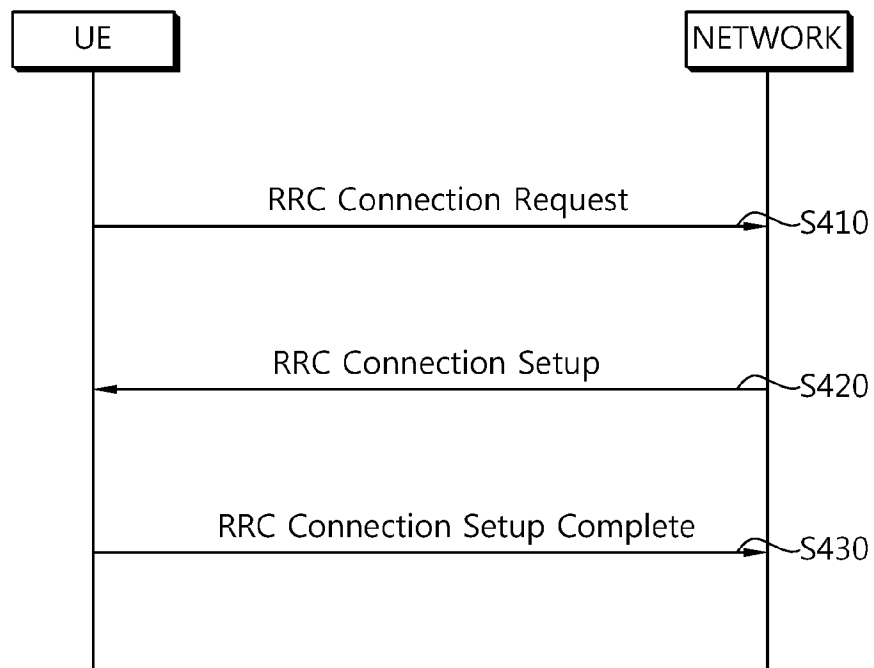
[Fig. 2]



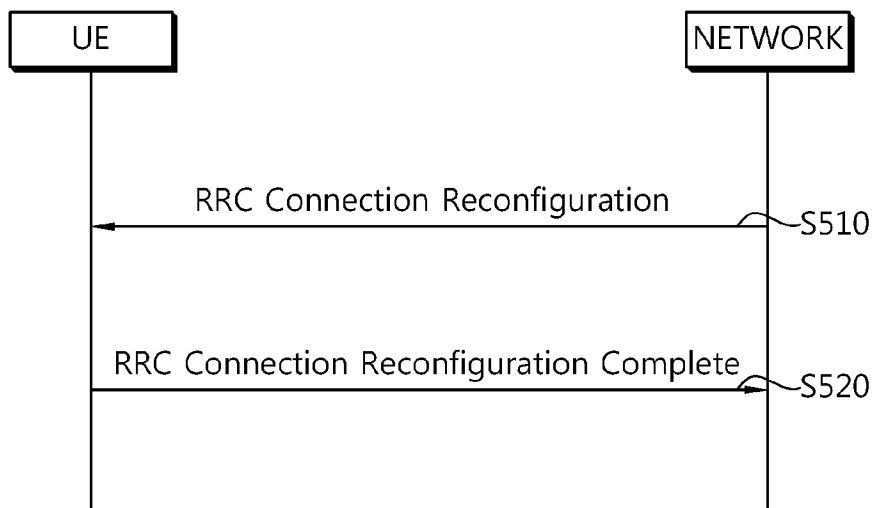
[Fig. 3]



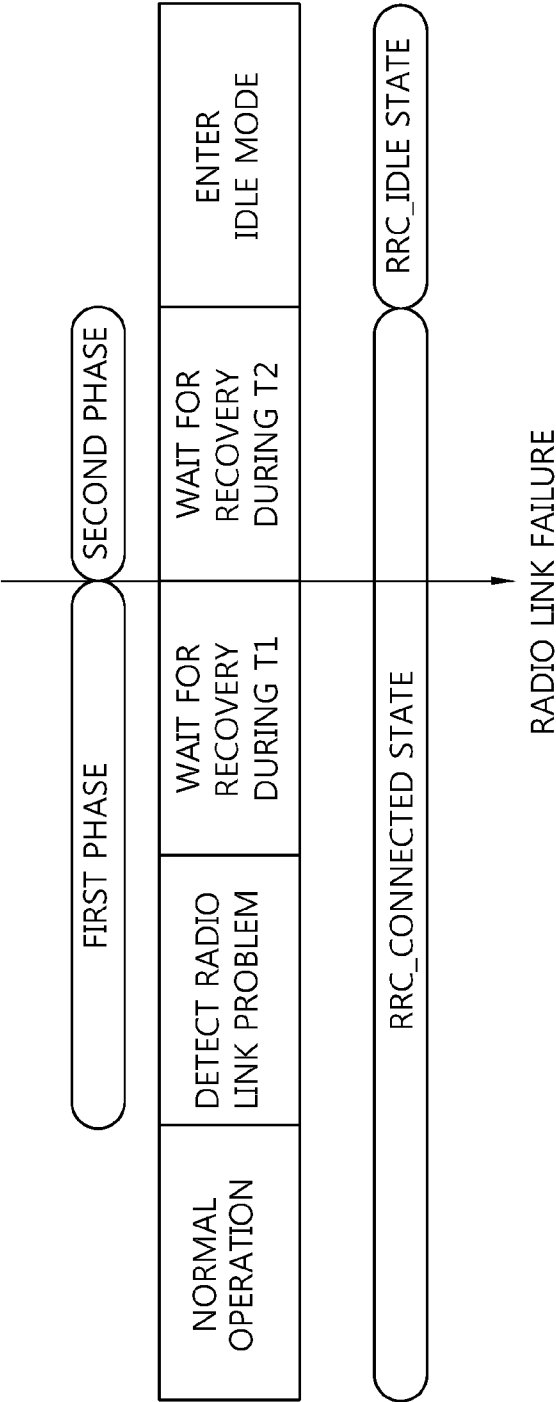
[Fig. 4]



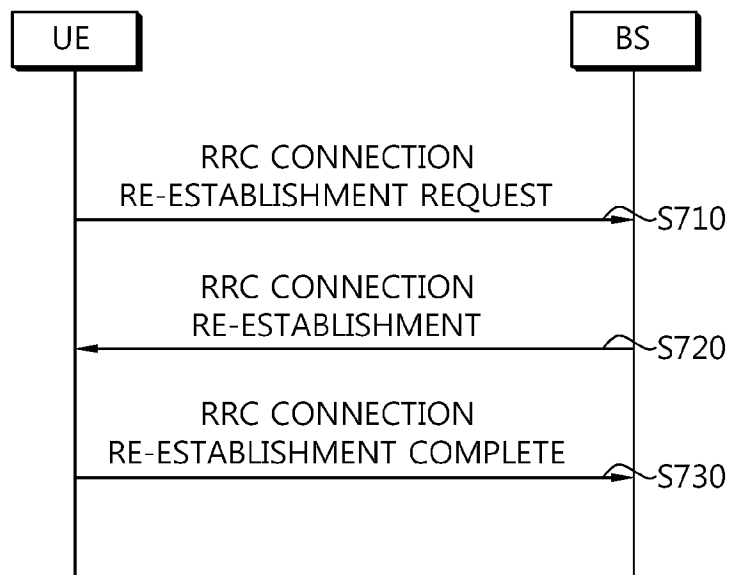
[Fig. 5]



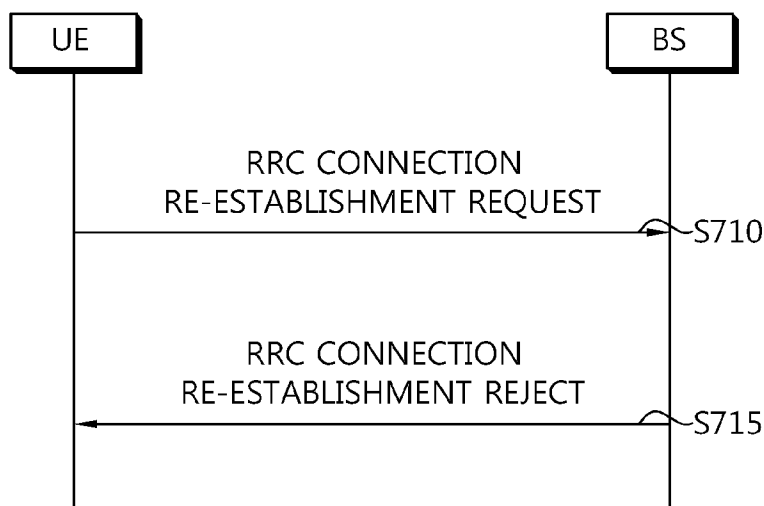
[Fig. 6]



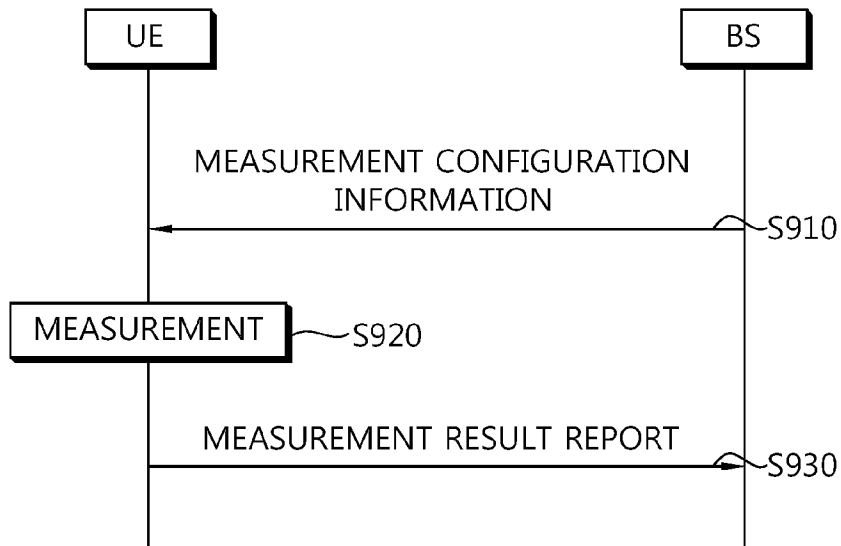
[Fig. 7]



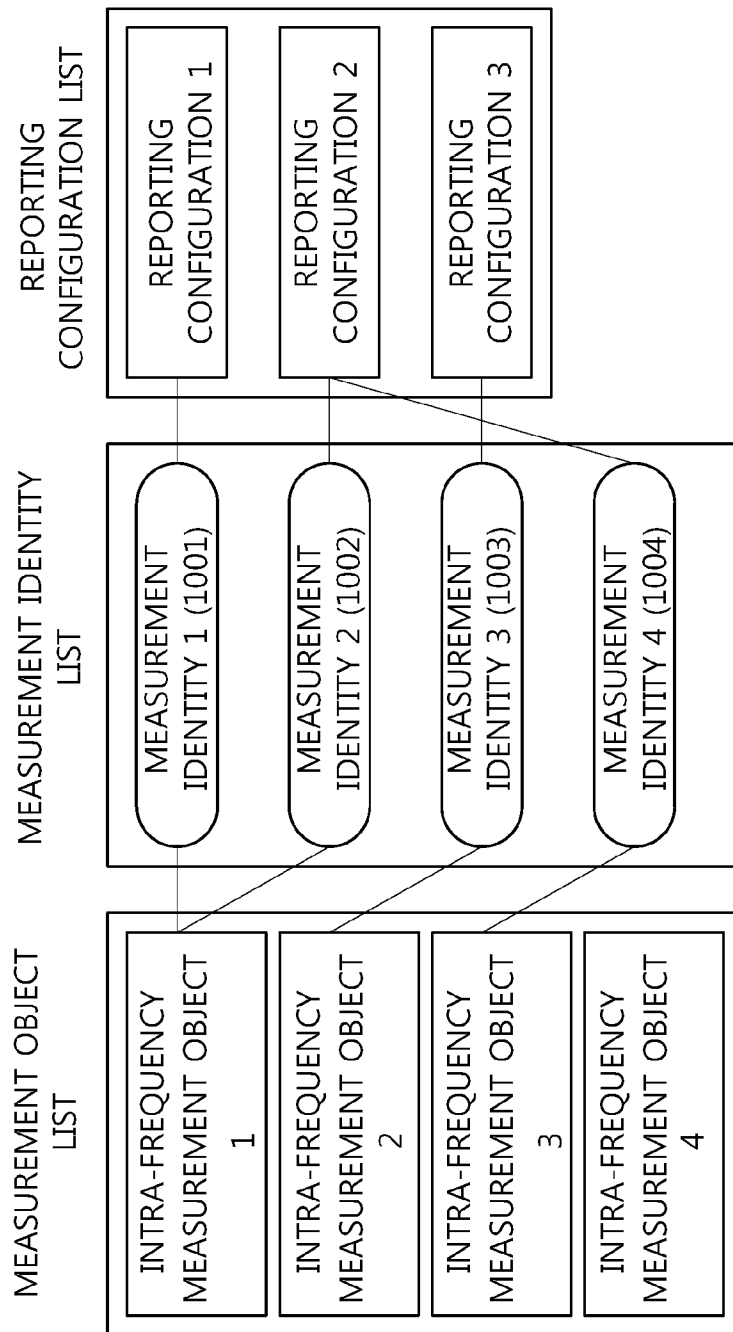
[Fig. 8]



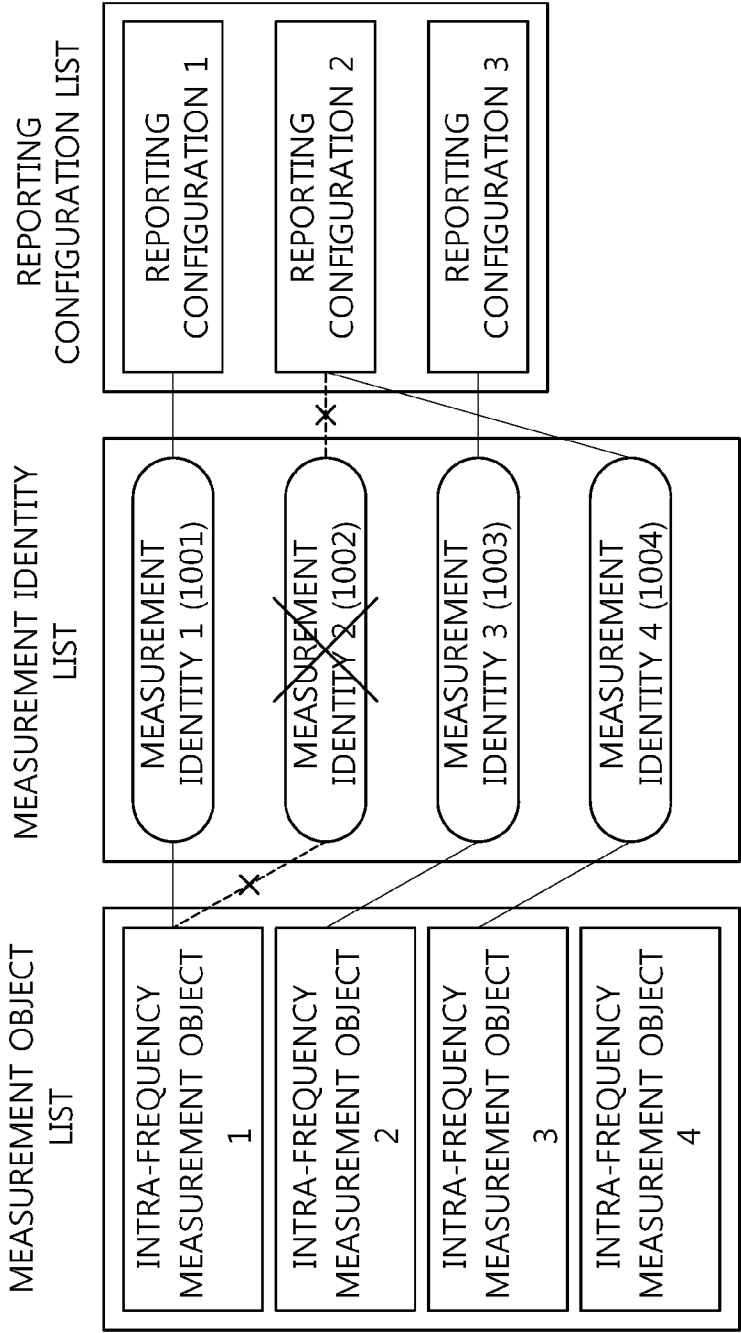
[Fig. 9]



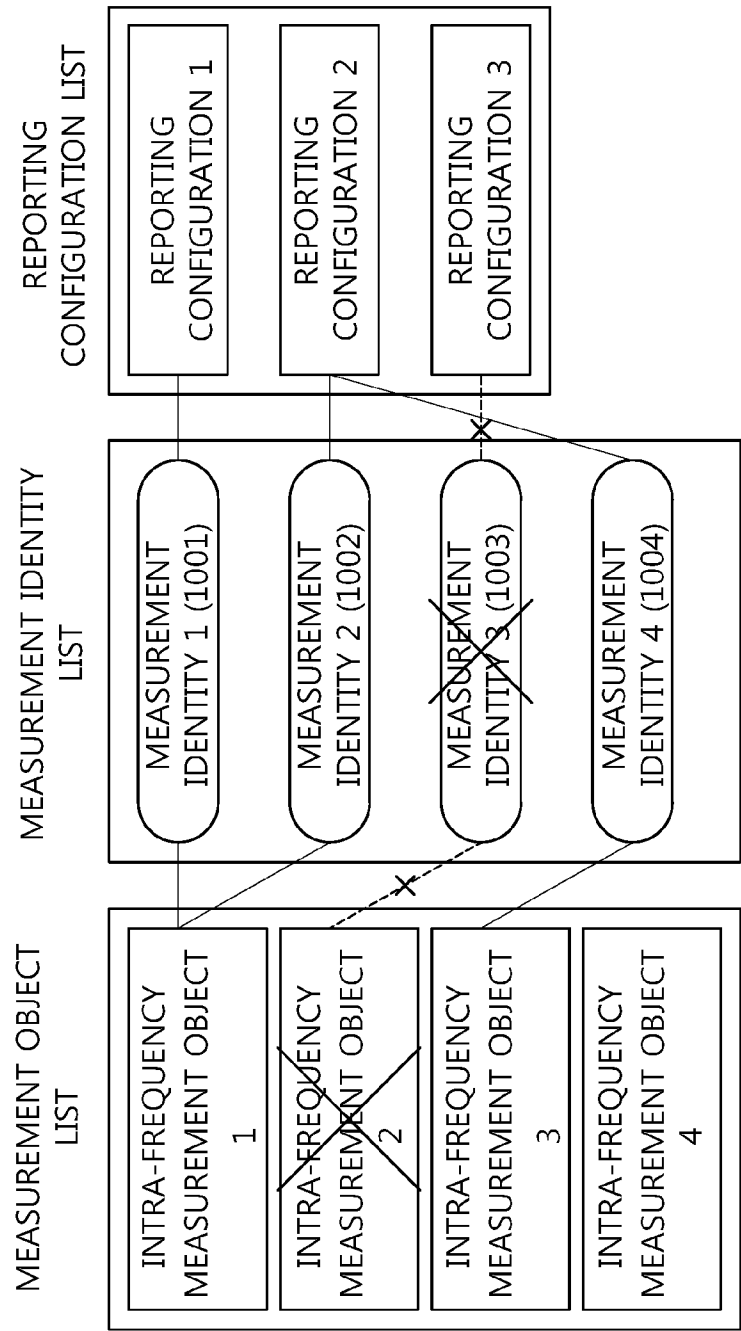
[Fig. 10]



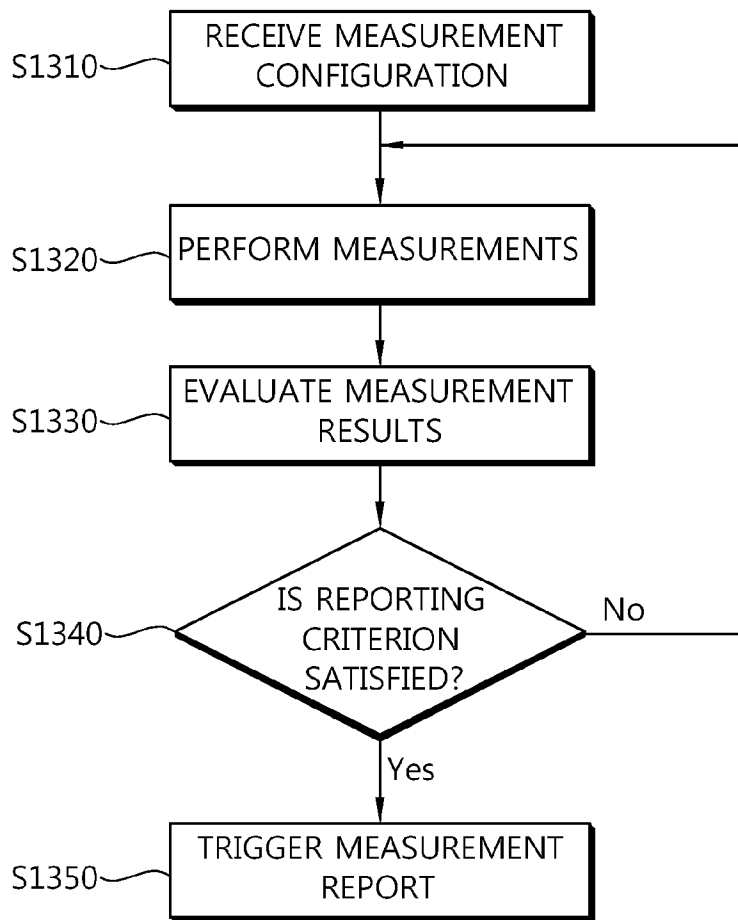
[Fig. 11]



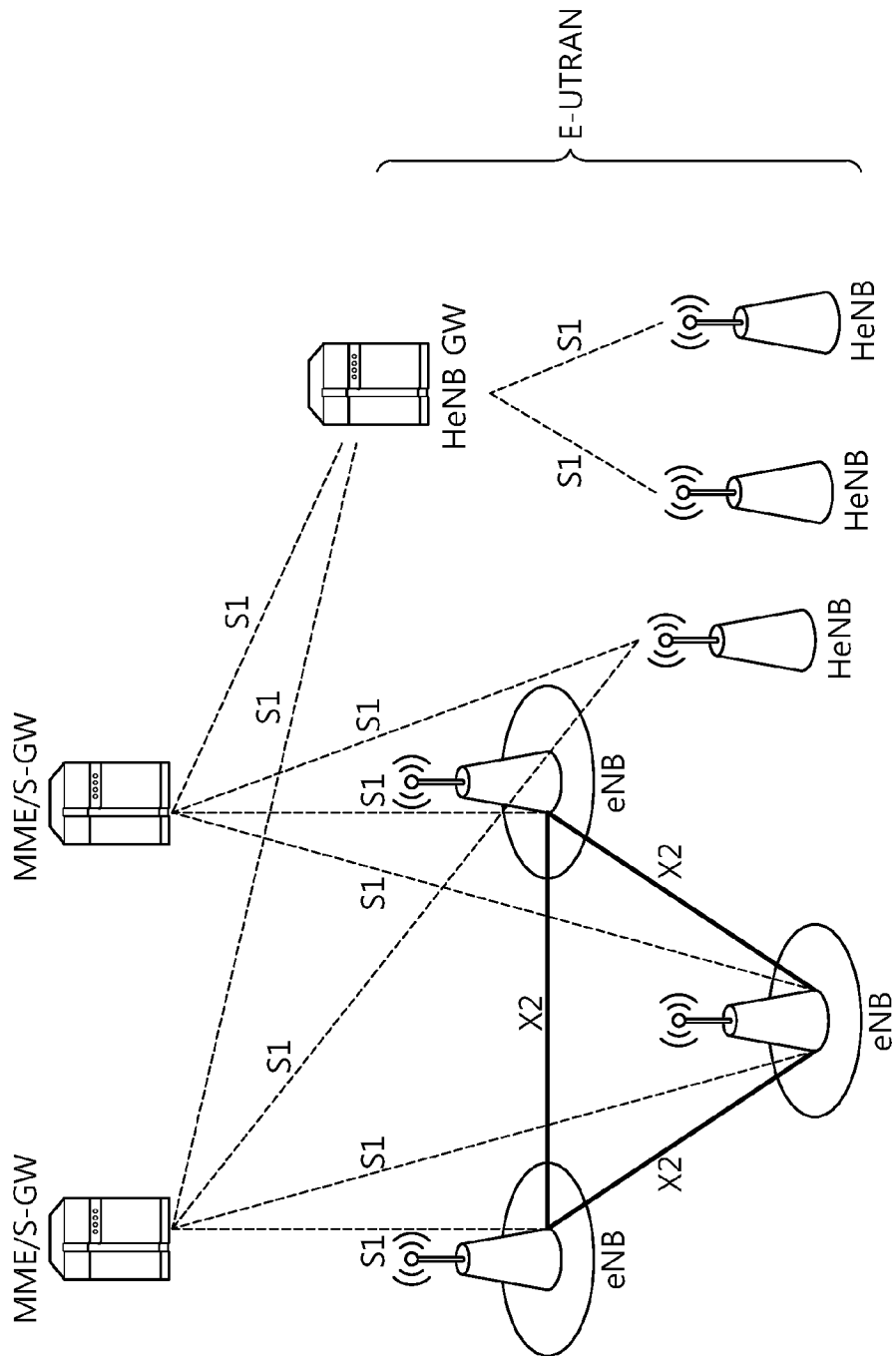
[Fig. 12]



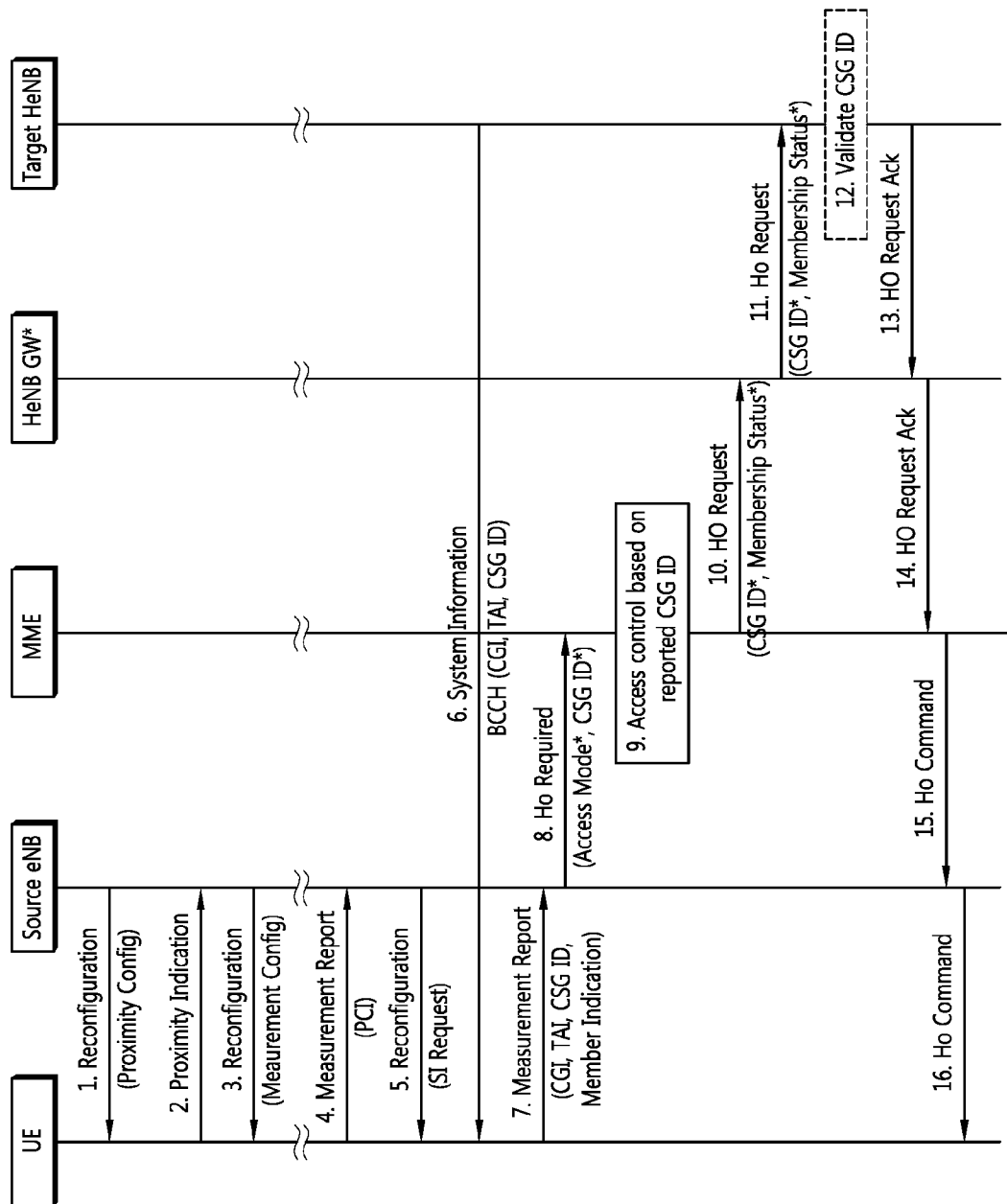
[Fig. 13]



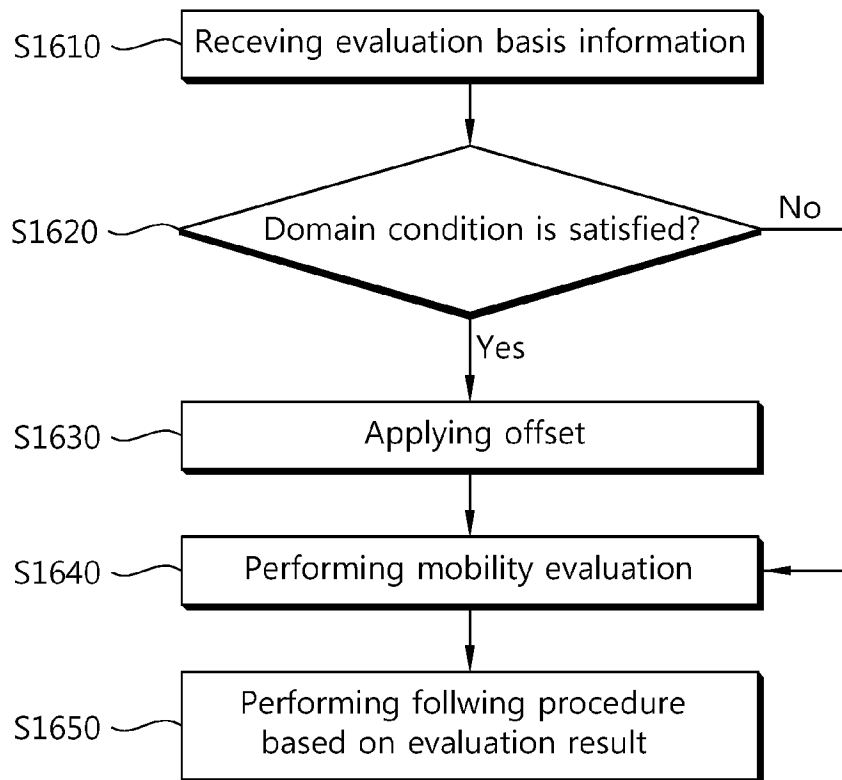
[Fig. 14]



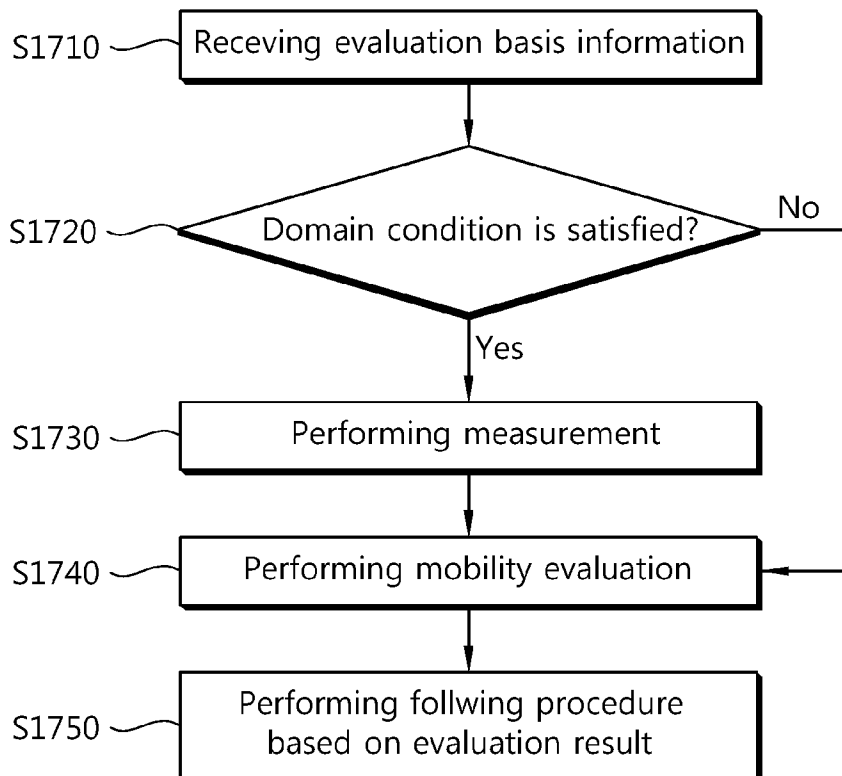
[Fig. 15]



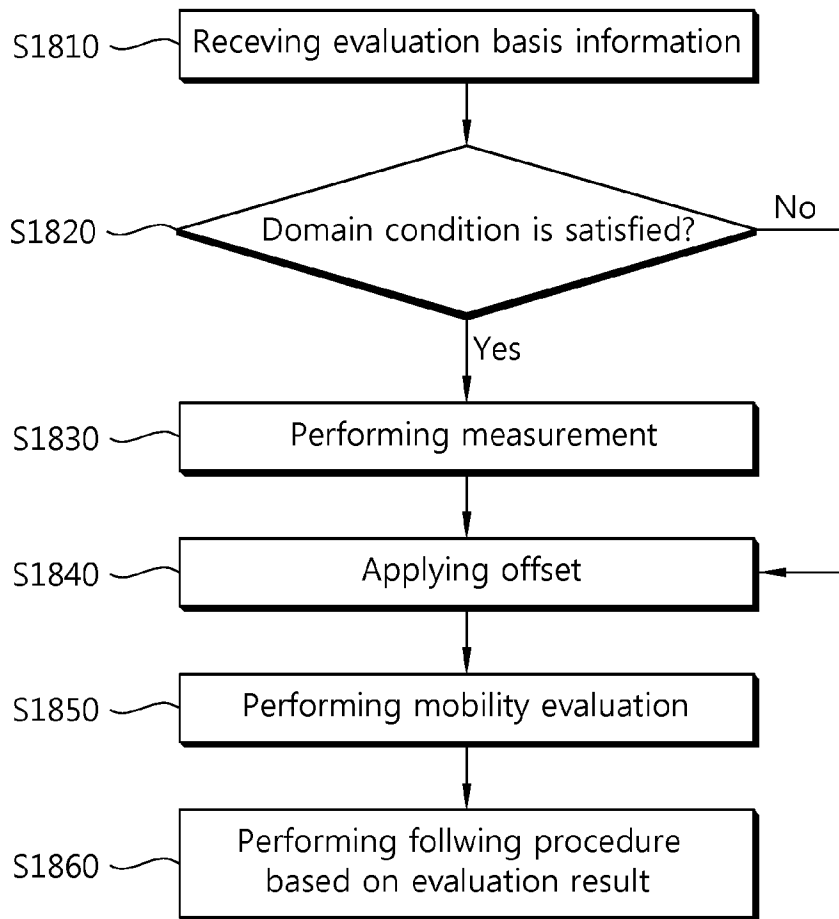
[Fig. 16]



[Fig. 17]



[Fig. 18]



[Fig. 19]

